

Definite Church Teaching

A Manual of Instruction

By Samuel Healy

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Definite Church Teaching

A MANUAL OF INSTRUCTION

IN

THE FAITH, DISCIPLINE, AND WORSHIP

OF

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

FOR MEMBERS OF

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

BY

SAMUEL HEALY

Rector of Grimoldby and Stewton

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PREFACE

THE people of England have long been strangers, through prejudice and false teaching, to the joy and beauty of the Catholic Religion. This book is an attempt to express the historical faith and practice of Christendom, with its application to our own social, industrial, and political life in a form and language understood of the common people whom I love and wish to serve.

The doctrinal statements have been read by the Rev. Darwell Stone, Librarian of the Pusey House, and he has made many suggestions and corrections. This will give a guarantee of sound doctrine and accuracy to the book which it would not otherwise possess, and I desire to express my sincere and grateful thanks to him.

God is calling the Church of England to cast forth the spirit of worldliness, to take the side of the weak, and to proclaim the Catholic Religion, and thus to win the people of England to the love and service of JESUS CHRIST. God grant that this little book may take some part in this noble and inspiring work of God.

SAMUEL HEALY.

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Definite Church Teaching



I.—THE BAPTISMAL VOW

1. What is the Church Catechism?

The authoritative manual of the Church of England, and is intended to make her members loyal churchmen and good citizens.

2. What is your Name? *N. or M.*

At the outset every christian is made to recognize his own personal, individual responsibility, and to dare to stand alone.

3. Who gave you this Name? *My Godfathers and Godmothers in my Baptism; wherein I was made a member of CHRIST, the child of GOD, and an inheritor of the kingdom of heaven.*

4. What is the office of Godparents?

Godparents are the representatives of a society greater than family or nation. They bring the child to Baptism, they make the baptismal vow in the child's name, and promise that he shall be brought up as a good catholic christian, that he shall be taught the Church Catechism, and all other things which a christian ought to know and believe, and that

he shall be brought to Confirmation when come to years of discretion, and can say the Creed, the LORD'S Prayer and the Ten Commandments.

5. **What did God do for you in Baptism?**
GOD made me:

(1) *A member of CHRIST.* Every christian is united to CHRIST and through Him to all other christians, as limbs and organs are united and dependent on each other.

(2) *The child of GOD.* The relation of father and child is established between GOD and every baptized person, and nothing can destroy this. This means that GOD loves and will punish His children, and that they must all love and serve each other.

(3) *An inheritor of the kingdom of heaven.* This means a present possessor of the divine society founded by GOD on earth, and forbids us to tolerate the extreme poverty, overwork, and degradation of our brothers and sisters on account of their supposed value hereafter. These social wrongs are contrary to GOD'S Will, and the real unbelievers are those who let these conditions continue, who support the wrong or anarchical elements in the present industrial system, or do not strenuously pray and work to overthrow them.

6. **What did your Godfathers and Godmothers then for you?** *They did promise*

and vow three things in my name. First, that I should renounce the devil and all his works, the pomps and vanity of this wicked world, and all the sinful lusts of the flesh. Secondly, that I should believe all the articles of the christian faith. And thirdly, that I should keep GOD's holy will and commandments, and walk in the same all the days of my life.

7. Put this in other words. My God-parents promised for me that I should give up what is wrong, believe what is true, and do what is right.

8. Dost thou not think that thou art bound to believe, and to do, as they have promised for thee? *Yes verily: and by GOD's help so I will. And I heartily thank our heavenly FATHER, that He hath called me to this state of salvation, through JESUS CHRIST our Saviour. And I pray unto GOD to give me His grace, that I may continue in the same unto my life's end.*

II.—TO GIVE UP WHAT IS WRONG

1. What does the Holy Catholic Church teach?

(1) GOD made me to know, love, and serve Him, and by this means to attain Eternal Life.

(2) Eternal Life is union with GOD, and that this union must be begun on earth.

(3) All God's gifts—money, friends, education, health, strength, opportunities, etc.—are given to enable me to know, love, and serve GOD, and for no other purpose.

(4) I must gladly renounce or give up anything which hinders or prevents me knowing, loving, and serving GOD.

(5) I must crucify SELF or it will destroy me. (*S. Matt. xvi. 24.*)

(6) Sin is any failure or refusal to do the Will of GOD. There are three main kinds of sin :

Vice : Open and notorious sin. Drink, Gambling, Lust, Blasphemy, Bad Language, Lying, Thieving.

Worldliness : The adoption of the standard of the World at Home, in Business, or in Religion. The practical denial of GOD.

Selfishness : Which takes two main forms.

(a) SELF-WILL = Self-assertion, Self-righteousness, etc.

(b) SELF-INDULGENCE = Giving way to lower SELF.

(7) There is no promise of Salvation by CHRIST, here or in Heaven, unless we renounce SELF.

2. What is the teaching of the Prayer Book?

(1) *The Baptismal Vow*. There is no compromise with the world, the flesh, or the devil

here. They MUST go if we are disciples of a crucified GOD.

(2) *This solemn promise* was deliberately and solemnly renewed and accepted at your Confirmation. Read over the Confirmation Service, and think well what you promised to give up for CHRIST.

(3) *The need of True Repentance.* The teaching of the Prayer Book as to the need of true Repentance, if we have any way failed or refused to give up these things, is very clear and very severe.

3. What ought every christian to do?

(1) Every christian ought frequently to examine himself severely as to whether he is allowing the world, the flesh, or the devil to gain any influence over him, and as to whether he is making any compromise with them.

(2) Every christian ought to grow daily into a deeper and truer Repentance. Repentance is gained from GOD by earnest prayer and by thinking and praying about the Cross of our dear LORD.

(3) Every christian ought to bear a loyal and true witness to JESUS CHRIST, by putting GOD's Law into practice in his daily life. "True christians are the only Bible men of the world read to-day," and unconverted christians are the chief obstacle to the conversion of sinners, and the promotion of GOD's glory in the world.

III.—TO BELIEVE WHAT IS TRUE

I. What does the Holy Catholic Church teach ?

(1) Faith is a gift of GOD which enables us to believe all that GOD has revealed. (*Eph.* ii. 8.) The christian virtue of Faith is given in Baptism, and is increased by prayer and obedience to GOD's Will.

(2) Belief and practice cannot really be separated. All who really believe in GOD try to do His Will, and unbelief is the real cause of all sin.

(3) The word faith means two different things :

(a) Belief in GOD and all that He has revealed.

(b) Self-surrender to GOD and obedience to His Will.

(4) GOD has revealed, through JESUS CHRIST, many truths which we should not otherwise know. This Body of Truth is called "The Faith." (*S. Jude* 3.)

(5) The Catholic Church was founded by GOD to maintain and teach the Faith until JESUS CHRIST comes again.

(6) It is possible to injure or destroy our faith. The chief sins against our faith and the Faith are Worldliness, Sensuality, Heresy, or the denial of any truth revealed by GOD, and Schism, or causing division amongst the mem-

bers of CHRIST. All these are terrible sins, for they make people deny GOD's truth, they separate GOD's children, they divide the Church, and hinder the conversion of the world. (*S. John xvii. 21.*)

2. What is the teaching of the Prayer Book?

(1) *The Baptismal Vow.* We promised GOD to believe *all* the truth revealed by GOD through JESUS CHRIST.

(2) *The Holy Bible.* The Prayer Book appoints six portions of Scripture to be read every day in public worship.

(3) *The Creeds* contain the fundamental truths of our religion. They are really the Holy Bible in a short form which can be easily remembered.

3. What ought every christian to do?

(1) Every christian ought to strive to gain a deeper and stronger faith in GOD by earnest prayer and obedience to GOD's holy Will and Commandments.

(2) Every christian ought to grow daily into a deeper realization of the meaning of the Christian Faith.

(3) Every christian ought to do all he can to remove prejudice and ignorance, to contend earnestly for the one true Faith, and to bring all GOD's children into one holy union of truth and love.

IV.—TO DO WHAT IS RIGHT

1. What is the Teaching of the Catholic Church ?

(1) Obedience to GOD'S Will is the essential thing in Religion. Knowledge, emotion, or activity must never be made a substitute for obedience.

(2) We learn GOD'S Will—

(a) *Directly*: By the inspiration of the HOLY SPIRIT.

(b) *Indirectly*: By the outward circumstances of our life at home, in the world, and in the Church.

(3) We must obey GOD'S Commandments.

(4) We must observe the precepts of the Catholic Church. GOD founded and gave authority to the Church. (*S. Luke x. 16.*) In obeying the Church we are obeying GOD. The most important precepts of the Church are—

(a) *To observe the appointed Festivals*: By receiving Holy Communion, or at least attending the Holy Sacrifice, and by rest, recreation, and striving to be happy and to make others happy.

(b) *To observe the appointed Fasting Days*: By eating less, or by going without meat. We fast in order to bring the flesh into subjection to the spirit, and to show our sorrow for sin.

(c) *To value and use the Sacraments.*

The seven rites usually known as Sacraments are :

Holy Baptism, by which we are made christians, receive forgiveness of sins, and are admitted into the Catholic Church.

Confirmation, by which we receive the HOLY GHOST to make us strong and perfect christians and soldiers of JESUS CHRIST.

Absolution, by which the sins committed after Baptism are forgiven.

Holy Communion, which GOD appointed to be the Sacrifice or Worship of the Church, the food of our souls, and the means of our union with CHRIST and, in Him, with one another.

Holy Order, by which bishops, priests, and deacons are ordained and receive power to exercise their ministry.

Holy Matrimony, by which the marriage of christians is blessed, and they receive power to keep the marriage vow.

Anointing, by which the sick are blessed, receive the forgiveness of their sins, and restoration to health if it be GOD's Will.

(d) *To be a regular and earnest Communicant.*
We ought to receive Holy Communion every Sunday if rightly prepared.

(e) *To be very regular and earnest in prayer.*

(f) *To be an earnest student of the Bible.*

(g) *To give if possible a tenth of our income to the work and service of GOD.*

(h) *Not to marry within the forbidden degrees of kindred.*

2. What is the Teaching of the Prayer Book?

The Church of England is the Catholic Church in this country, and therefore her teaching is the same as the rest of the Church.

Read carefully and pray over the "Duty towards God" and the "Duty towards thy Neighbour" in the Church Catechism.

3. What ought every christian to do?

(1) To do GOD's Will at home, in the world, and in the Church.

(2) To examine himself regularly as to whether he is fulfilling GOD's Holy Will and Commandments.

(3) To pray GOD for true repentance.

V.—THE CREEDS

1. Rehearse the Articles of thy Belief.

I believe in GOD the FATHER Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth: And in JESUS CHRIST His only SON our LORD, Who was conceived by the HOLY GHOST, Born of the Virgin Mary, Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried, He descended into hell; The third day He rose again from the dead, He ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of GOD the FATHER Almighty; From

thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the HOLY GHOST; The holy Catholic Church; The Communion of Saints; The Forgiveness of sins; The Resurrection of the body; And the Life everlasting. Amen.

2. What dost thou chiefly learn in these Articles of thy Belief? *First, I learn to believe in GOD the FATHER, Who hath made me, and all the world. Secondly, in GOD the SON, Who hath redeemed me, and all mankind. Thirdly, in GOD the HOLY GHOST, Who sanctifieth me, and all the elect people of GOD.*

3. Express this in other words.

(1) All nature is GOD's Creation and expresses GOD's Mind.

(2) The physical world and Human Bodies are Sacred.

(3) The whole Human Race has been bought back out of evil by the life and Sacrifice of JESUS CHRIST.

(4) All the baptized, without distinction of race, class, or sex, are under the influence of the HOLY GHOST.

(5) The Church is set apart to bear witness to the whole of mankind as to what the true human condition is, to convert and bring all mankind to repentance and obedience to GOD.

4. What is Faith? Faith is a gift of GOD which enables us to believe all that GOD has

revealed, and to surrender our wills in whole-hearted obedience to the Will of GOD. (*Eph. ii. 8.*)

5. **What is the Faith?** The Faith is the Body of Truth which GOD has revealed to mankind. We must believe all revealed truth because GOD has revealed it, because we are responsible for belief or unbelief, and because all human conduct is the natural expression of belief or unbelief.

6. **What is the Apostles' Creed?** In very early times a form of sound words was drawn up. This gradually grew into the present form of the Apostles' Creed, and was accepted by christians as a true expression of the Faith of Christendom. It is so called because it is a summary of what the Apostles believed and taught.

7. **What is the Nicene Creed?** This Creed is chiefly that adopted at the Council of Nicæa, A.D. 325. The Divine Nature of our LORD and also of the HOLY GHOST had been widely denied, and the chief objects of this Creed were to express the doctrine of the Church on these two truths.

8. **What is the Athanasian Creed?** This Creed is so called, not because it was written by S. Athanasius, but because it sets forth the doctrines he spent his life in defending. The Creed states in magnificent language

the Church's faith in regard to the Holy Trinity and the Incarnation. The warnings of the Creed are taken from our LORD's Teaching, and are only addressed to christians who know the Catholic Faith and wilfully reject it. (*S. Matt.* xviii. 8, xxv. 41 ; *S. Mark* ix. 43-46, xvi. 16.)

9. **Why ought we to receive and believe the Creeds?** "The Three Creeds, . . . ought thoroughly to be received and believed, for they may be proved by most certain warrants of Holy Scripture." (*Article VIII.*)

10. **What are the uses of Creeds?** The Creeds have three main purposes. They are—

(1) *A Standard or Rule of Faith*, to preserve the Faith from accidental change or wilful perversion.

(2) *A Form of Instruction*, especially for those preparing for Holy Baptism.

(3) *A Form of Confession of Faith* in the public worship of the Church.

VI.—THE HOLY TRINITY

1. **What is the Nature of God?** GOD is Spirit, Eternal and Almighty, of infinite Wisdom, Holiness, Truth, and Justice. (*S. John* iv. 24.)

2. **Why do we believe in God?** We believe in GOD for the same reasons that we

believe in any one else whom we love and trust. We cannot prove the existence of GOD any more than we can prove our own existence ; but there is no satisfactory explanation of the universe apart from GOD ; the sense of duty witnesses to a higher power than human, and we have spiritual powers which only GOD can satisfy.

3. What is the Doctrine of the Holy Trinity ? There is ONE GOD in Trinity, and Trinity in Unity.

(1) There are Three Persons in the One Godhead. (*S. Matt.* xxviii. 19.)

(2) Each one of the Three is distinct from the other. (*S. John* xiv. 16, xv. 26.)

(3) Each one of the Three is a Personal Being. (*S. John* v. 17, xiv. 16, 26.)

(4) These Three Persons are One. (*S. John* x. 30, xiv. 9.)

(5) Each of the Three Persons is GOD. (*S. John* xx. 17, i. 1 ; *Acts* v. 3, 4.)

4. What is the relation of each of the Three Persons ? GOD the FATHER has His Nature of Himself, GOD the SON is eternally begotten of the FATHER, and GOD the HOLY GHOST proceeds from the FATHER and the SON, and is the bond of union in the Godhead.

5. Why do we speak of God as " Our Father " ? Not only because GOD is the

FATHER of all men by creation, but also and specially because GOD is the FATHER of JESUS CHRIST and we are members of CHRIST. As our FATHER GOD loves all His children and we must love and serve all others because they are our brothers and sisters.

6. What do we know about the Love of God?

(1) *It is an all-embracing Love.* GOD loves every one irrespective of race, nation, or class. No one is outside the love of GOD, and therefore we must love all others. (*S. John* iii. 16.)

(2) *It is an individual Love.* GOD knows and loves each one separately. The realization of this truth is the foundation of personal Religion. (*Gal.* ii. 20.)

(3) *It is a jealous Love.* GOD must punish sin. There is no limit to GOD's forgiving love, but if man will not repent GOD must punish and banish the sinner.

7. What is Creation? GOD made Heaven and Earth, and all they contain, material and spiritual, out of nothing. Revelation asserts nothing as to the duration of the "days" of Creation, or as to the previous state of the Universe, or as to whether the acts of creative power produced their full effects at once or gradually, or as to whether intermediate agencies were employed by GOD.

VII.—THE HOLY INCARNATION

1. What is the Incarnation? The act by which GOD the SON became Man—the Union of Human Nature with the Divine Nature in the Person of GOD the SON.

2. Had our Lord an earthly father? No. The sinless Virgin-Birth was accomplished by the operation of GOD the HOLY GHOST.

3. Who was our Lord's Mother? The Ever-Virgin Mary. The Council of Ephesus (A.D. 431) gave her the title MOTHER OF GOD as the human agent through whom the Incarnation was accomplished. We ought to give her the highest honour due to any creature. It has been held by many that she never committed wilful sin. (*S. Luke i. 28.*)

4. How did God prepare the world for the Incarnation? The heathen were prepared by every movement towards good in religion, law or material progress, and the Jews were prepared by the sense of sin and need created by the law and sacrifices, by the longing for help fostered by prophecy, and by the training and discipline of the Mosaic Law.

5. Why did God become Man? The SON of GOD became the Son of Man, that the sons of men might become the Sons of GOD. GOD became Man for four great reasons :

(1) To teach us the love of GOD. (*S. John* iii. 16.)

(2) To redeem and unite mankind to GOD. (*1 Tim.* i. 15.)

(3) To set us the example of a perfect Human Life. (*S. John* xiii. 15.)

(4) To give us Truth and Grace. (*S. John* x. 10.)

6. **Is our Lord truly God?** Our LORD in His higher nature existed from eternity, and is GOD in the same sense as that in which the FATHER is GOD.

(1) *This truth is taught in Scripture.* (*S. John* i. 14; *Heb.* i. 2, 8.)

(2) *Our LORD claimed to be GOD.* (*S. John* x. 30-33.) His Miracles indicate that He possessed higher powers than human. He speaks with absolute authority and revises even the Law of GOD. He claims the entire allegiance of all men and announces that He will judge the world. He promises eternal life to all who love and serve Him. These claims are incompatible with anything short of the claims of GOD.

(3) *The Church has always taught* this doctrine and worshipped our LORD as Almighty GOD.

(4) *The whole Christian Doctrine* of our LORD's work as the Redeemer and Mediator between man and GOD is built upon the Union of GOD and Man in Him.

7. **Is our Lord truly Man?** Our LORD is truly and perfectly Man, though He derived His Human Nature from a mother only. His true Human Nature is necessary to our LORD's work as the Mediator between man and God.

8. **How many persons are there in Jesus Christ?** There is only One Person—the Person of GOD the SON. This is the teaching of Scripture and the undivided Church. This single Personality made our LORD “*not to be able to sin*,” yet His Temptation was real to Him and valuable to us as an example and as giving Him sympathy with us. This Divine Personality also makes our LORD infallible in His teaching.

9. **How many Natures are there in Jesus Christ?** There are two Natures—the Divine and the Human.

VIII.—THE PERFECT HUMAN LIFE

1. **What is our Lord's Name?** JESUS. This name was given by GOD and means GOD THE SAVIOUR. (*S. Luke i. 31.*)

2. **What is our Lord's Title?** CHRIST. Our LORD was anointed by the HOLY GHOST at His Baptism to be a Prophet, Priest, and King. (*S. Matt. iii. 13-17.*) As Prophet our LORD reveals the Will of GOD, as Priest He offers Sacrifice, Absolves, and Blesses, and

as King He rules over the Kingdom of Heaven. Our LORD now exercises His threefold office on earth through the Ministry of the Church.

3. Why is Jesus Christ our Lord? Because He is GOD, because all power and authority is given unto Him, and because He is the Head of the Church.

4. What do we know of our Lord's Life on earth? Our LORD spent most of His Life on earth at Nazareth, in obedience to His Mother, working as a carpenter and preparing for His Ministry. He thus sanctified all home life and honest work.

5. What do we know of our Lord's Ministry? During this period our LORD went about doing good, working miracles, teaching and converting the people, and training His Apostles to found and build up the Church.

6. Mention three characteristics of our Lord's Life on earth.

(1) GOD-made-man chose the life and position of a skilled artisan, and thus witnessed against the dangers of extreme poverty and wealth.

(2) GOD-made-man chose a life of chastity, and thus witnessed to the sacredness of the Human Body and against every form of impurity and all that strikes against Holy Marriage and Home Life.

(3) GOD-made-man chose a life of obedience, and thus witnessed against all selfishness, indifference, and irreligion.

7. Give three features of our Lord's Life of Obedience.

(1) Our LORD rendered perfect conformity to GOD'S Will as revealed to Him directly by the secret inspiration of the HOLY SPIRIT, and indirectly by the outward circumstances of His Life.

(2) Our LORD bore the Suffering in Body and Soul which this obedience entailed.

(3) Our LORD endured unto the end. (*Phil. ii. 7.*)

8. What is Religion? Religion is Obedience to GOD'S Will. Neither Knowledge, Activity, nor Emotion can ever be a substitute for Obedience to GOD'S Will. All Christians are called to imitate our LORD in voluntary poverty, purity, and obedience to the Will of GOD.

9. What is the value of our Lord's Example? Our LORD did not merely give us the example of a perfect human life, but He gives us the power to grow daily unto a more perfect reproduction of His own life on earth. Our LORD is what GOD is and man ought to be.

IX.—THE ATONEMENT

1. What is the Fall of Man? Man was created in a state of holiness and happiness, and fell, by an act of wilful disobedience, into

a state of sin and suffering, under the wrath of GOD. The effects of sin are now the inheritance of the human race, and a state of holiness must now be the result of restoration and new gifts.

2. **Why was Jesus Christ crucified?** The Jews killed our LORD, mainly because He attacked their vested interests and condemned their formal and worldly religion. All sin is the rejection of GOD's Love, and worldliness is still the greatest obstacle to true religion.

3. **What is the Atonement?** The work of our LORD was to remedy the mischief caused by the fall by restoring to man what he had lost, and removing what sin had brought upon him. This our LORD accomplished for the whole human race by His Death. By the Sacrifice of His obedience unto death our LORD removed the barrier between man and GOD, and reconciled man and GOD, and this is the Atonement.

4. **What is the Teaching of Scripture?** The source of the reconciliation of man to GOD is in the Death of CHRIST, and it is for all men and all sins, original and actual. (*Eph.* ii. 16; *1 Tim.* ii. 6; *Titus* ii. 14.) The main idea of the Jewish Religion was the value of Sacrifice. In all Sacrifices that which was offered was given to GOD as an outward sign of the personal surrender of self. The Jewish Sacrifices were all a type of the One Offering of CHRIST :

He is "the Lamb of GOD Which taketh away the sins of the world." (*S. John* i. 29, 36.) Our LORD and His Apostles all taught the same great truth. (*Acts* xx. 28; *1 S. Pet.* i. 18, 19; *Heb.* vii. 27; *S. John* iii. 16; *Rev.* v. 6-14.)

5. What is the teaching of the Church?

The Church has always taught that our LORD'S Death is the Sacrifice offered to GOD for the sin of the world, and that through this offering there is forgiveness of sins and union with GOD offered to all mankind.

6. Has the Cross power in the world to-day? Men and women are continually being drawn by the Holy Cross from the service of the devil to the Love and Service of JESUS CHRIST.

7. How do we know that our Lord died? Our LORD'S Sacred Side was pierced with a spear, and He was buried. (*S. Matt.* xxvii. 57-60.)

8. How do we show our Belief in the Atonement?

(1) By true Conversion to GOD—that is, by giving up every habit of sin, and by entire Self-Surrender to GOD.

(2) By true Repentance and loving Obedience to GOD.

(3) By regular and earnest reception of Holy Communion and of Absolution when needed.

X.—THE RESURRECTION

1. **Where did our Lord go after death?** Our LORD's Body was laid in the tomb and His Soul went to Hell (Hades, or the unseen world), to declare His Redemption to the souls detained there. Neither His Body nor His Soul was ever separated from His Godhead. (*S. Luke* xxiii. 43; *Acts* ii. 24-31; 1 *S. Pet.* iii. 18, 19; iv. 6.)

2. **What is the Resurrection?** On the third day the Body and Soul of our LORD were re-united, and He rose again from the dead.

3. **Did our Lord rise again with the same Body?** He rose again with the same Body, but it had then become a Spiritual Body. Our LORD's risen Body is a Body of Glory, incapable of weakness, disease, or death, and superior to space and time. Our Bodies will one day be like His risen Body.

4. **Why was the Resurrection necessary?** For three main reasons:

(1) Because our LORD's Body could not see corruption.

(2) Because the Resurrection is the outward proof of the truth of our LORD's Claims, and

(3) Because the Body of CHRIST is the means of our Sacramental union with Him.

5. **Are we sure of the truth of the Resurrection?** The Resurrection is the most certain fact in History.

(1) Four Evangelists and S. Paul record the event.

(2) The Apostles were unwilling to believe the event, but were convinced by our LORD's appearances. (*S. Matt.* xxviii. 9-16; *S. Mark* xvi. 9-16; *S. Luke* xxiv. 13-50; *S. John* xx. 20 26; *1 Cor.* xv. 6, 7.)

(3) The Resurrection has always been believed by Christians, and many have died to bear witness to its truth.

(4) The observance of Sunday is a great witness to its truth.

(5) The Resurrection was included in the Creed of Christians from the earliest times.

6. What is the Hope of the Resurrection? The Resurrection is the Gospel of Hope and New Life. It is the outward Sign and guarantee of—

(1) *The Resurrection of all men.* All in union with CHRIST will rise to the New Life of Heaven. (*S. John* v. 28, 29.)

(2) *The Revival of National Righteousness.* The Resurrection is the Hope of the coming of the Kingdom of GOD and His Righteousness in social, industrial and political life.

(3) *The Revival of Souls.* The Resurrection is the Hope of the Revival of every soul dead in trespasses and sins, in indifference, unbelief and mortal sin, to the New Life in CHRIST.

(4) *The Revival of the Catholic Religion.* The

Resurrection is the Hope of the Reunion of Christendom, of a great Revival of the Catholic Religion, and of the conversion of the world.

XI.—THE ASCENSION

1. What are the Great Forty Days?

The days which our LORD spent on earth after His Resurrection. During this period He frequently appeared to His Disciples and gave them instructions concerning the Faith, Discipline, and Government of the Church. (*Acts* i. 3.)

2. What did our Lord do then? At the end of the Forty Days He took His Disciples out towards Bethany, and in their sight ascended into Heaven. (*S. Mark* xvi. 19; *S. Luke* xxiv. 50; *Acts* i. 9; *Heb.* xii. 2.)

3. Why was this necessary? In the Jewish Sacrifices the culminating point was the offering of the Victim to GOD after it had been slain. The culminating point in the Sacrifice of CHRIST is the offering of His Manhood to GOD the FATHER after being slain on the Cross. Our LORD ascended into Heaven to make this offering, which has continued ever since. (*Lev.* xvi.)

4. What are the benefits of the Ascension?

(1) Our LORD'S Work of Mediation in

Heaven began then. This Work gives power and efficacy to the Church and Sacraments.

(2) The Coming, Work, and Office of the HOLY GHOST depended on our LORD'S Ascension. (*S. John xvi. 7.*)

(3) Our LORD opened Heaven to all believers. He is the Firstfruits of all who will attain Heaven.

(4) He is preparing our Home in Heaven. We shall one day attain our perfect development of body and soul, and our perfect happiness in union with our LORD, the Holy Angels, and Blessed Saints in Heaven.

5. How ought we to show our Belief in our Lord's present work?

(1) Our Hearts ought to be in Heaven. (*Col. iii. 1-4.*)

(2) We ought to be true witnesses to our LORD. (*Acts i. 8.*)

(3) We ought to use the Sacraments as the means of our union with CHRIST?

(4) We ought to observe Ascension Day as one of the great Festivals of the Church.

6. Has our Lord been seen since His Ascension? Yes, by S. Stephen (*Acts vii. 56*), S. Paul (*Acts ix. 1-19*), and S. John (*Rev. i. 9-20*).

XII.—THE SECOND COMING

1. What is the Second Coming? Our LORD will come again to judge the world.

When this will be is known only to GOD.
(*Acts* i. 11; *S. Matt.* xxiv. 36.)

2. **What is the time of Probation?**
This life is the time of probation, and there is no indication of any other in Scripture. Every one will have opportunity to accept or reject GOD's offer, and any exceptional treatment must be left to the mercy and justice of GOD. Man is offered pardon of sin, holiness and union with GOD in CHRIST. It rests with man to accept or reject the offer of GOD. Man cannot be righteous without the grace of GOD, and grace cannot produce its full effect without the co-operation of man's will.

3. **What is the General Judgment?**
The Judgment of all mankind at the last day. All mankind will be divided into the saved and the lost. (*S. Matt.* xxv. 31-46.)

4. **What is the future state of the Lost?**
Their bodies and souls will be united, and they will be banished from GOD. They will be sent to hell, and there suffer in body and soul.

5. **Is this punishment unending?** "These shall go away into eternal punishment." (*S. Matt.* xxv. 46.) The word eternal expresses the quality in things which is permanent, so that it denotes lasting through all ages. The ordinary teaching of the Church has been that the punishment of the lost is unending. The eternity of punishment is involved in the co-ordinate truths of

the holiness of GOD and the free-will of man. Only the righteous can attain the Beatific Vision, and free will gives man power to choose evil as his eternal lot.

6. Is Annihilationism true? This is the theory that all souls except the saved will cease to exist, but there is nothing in Holy Scripture or the teaching of the Church to support it, and it is contrary to the general belief in the immortality of man.

7. Is Universalism true? This is the theory that all rational beings, including the devil, will eventually be admitted to Heaven, but it is contrary to the teaching of our LORD and the Church. It is clearly revealed that any human being may remain for ever estranged from GOD, and this is eternal punishment.

8. Can we reconcile eternal punishment with the Love of God? GOD's Love is a jealous Love, and therefore GOD must punish sin. GOD will do everything that GOD can do to win the sinner to Repentance, but GOD will not force the sinner's will. If the sinner will not repent then GOD must banish him from His Presence.

9. How ought we to prepare for the Judgment? We ought to watch and pray. This means to be on the alert, to do our duty to GOD and man, and to live a life of earnest repentance, prayer, and work for GOD.

XIII.—GOD THE HOLY GHOST

1. **What promise did our Lord make?** To send the HOLY GHOST. His Sacrifice must be presented in Heaven before the HOLY GHOST could be sent forth. He must Himself receive in His Manhood the Ascension gift of the HOLY GHOST, before the HOLY GHOST could create and be communicated to His mystical Body.

2. **When was this promise fulfilled?** On the Day of Pentecost, a festival of the Jewish Church kept in commemoration of the giving of the Law on Sinai. (2 Cor. iii. 3.)

3. **What were the consequences of this coming of the Holy Ghost?**

(1) *The Preaching of the Gospel.* The Apostles were endued with power from on high, and preached with wisdom, courage, and zeal.

(2) *The Church was founded.* Three thousand were converted and admitted into the Church by Baptism. (Acts ii. 41-47.)

4. **Who is the Holy Ghost?** The Third Person of the Holy Trinity. He is equal in majesty and glory to the FATHER and the SON.

5. **What is the chief office and work of the Holy Ghost?** He is the GIVER OF LIFE in nature and in grace.

(1) *In Creation.* (Gen. i. 2, ii. 7.)

(2) *In the Incarnation.* (S. Luke i. 35.)

(3) *In the Sacraments.* (S. John iii. 5, vi. 53.)

6. **What is the office and work of the Holy Ghost towards the Church?** The HOLY GHOST created and breathed life into the Church, and maintains her life from age to age. He leads the Church into an ever-deepening apprehension of the one true Faith, and supplies her with the grace and power needful for her life and work in the world.

7. **What is the office and work of the Holy Ghost towards individual christians?** The HOLY GHOST makes us christians in Baptism, and gives us the forgiveness of sins, the new life of CHRIST, and membership in the Catholic Church. He awakens souls in indifference and sin, and brings them to Conversion and Repentance. He gives us good desires and inspirations, power to avoid occasions of sin and to resist temptation, to respond to our Special Vocation in life, and to be true witnesses to JESUS CHRIST. (*Acts* i. 8.)

8. **What is the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost?** This is not any one particular sin, but "hardness of heart and contempt of God's Word and Commandment." It is a state of wilful unrepented sin per-

manently persisted in. No one who is trying to love and serve GOD has committed this sin.

9. **How can we show our love to the Holy Ghost?** By true conversion of heart to GOD, showing itself in avoiding occasions of sin, in true Repentance, and in loving Obedience to GOD's Will everywhere and in all things, and by Perseverance unto the end.

XIV.—THE CHURCH. (i)

1. **What is the Nature of the Church?**

The Church is a visible Society founded by GOD for the Conversion and Salvation of the world. This is taught in Scripture and is in harmony with the selection and training of the Apostles as a nucleus of the future Society, with the institution of Sacraments as outward signs of membership, and with the foundation of a kingdom. (*Acts* ii. 41-47; *S. John* xv. 16-19, xvii. 6-21; *S. Matt.* xvi. 18.)

2. **How is the Church One?**

The Unity of the Church consists in the Worship of one GOD, the holding of one Faith, the possession of one Sacramental system, the looking for of one hope, and the being guided and inspired by one Spirit. The unity of the Church is created by the union of the Church with our LORD, therefore external divisions, though

weakening the Church's witness and causing the enemy to blaspheme, do not destroy unity. (*Eph. iv. 1-6.*)

(1) *The theory that the Unity of the Church* is entirely unseen and spiritual overthrows the nature of the Church and is contrary to Holy Scripture.

(2) *The theory that external communion* with the see of Rome is essential to the unity of the Church has no sanction from Holy Scripture or the teaching and practice of the Undivided Church.

3. How is the Church Holy? The Church is Holy because it was founded and set apart by God, and because her Doctrines, Laws and Sacraments are holy, and because her aim is to make men holy. This Holiness is not destroyed by the existence of bad members in the Church. (*S. Matt. xiii ; xvi. 18.*)

4. How is the Church Catholic? The word Catholic is used to express two truths, universality and communion with the true Bishops. The Catholic Church is the Church of the whole world, teaches the whole truth, is the ruler of all men, heals all kinds of sin both of body and soul, and possesses all forms of virtue. The Catholicity of the Church lies in the power to do and be all this.

5. How is the Church Apostolic? The

Church is Apostolic because she is sent by GOD, through our LORD and His Apostles, and because she has a ministry validly ordained by means of Episcopal succession from the Apostles. There are special christian gifts found where there is an Episcopal Ministry, descended from the Apostles. (*S. Matt.* xxviii. 18-20.)

XV.—THE CHURCH. (ii)

1. What is the Work of the Church?

The Church is the Teacher of Truth and the Storehouse of Grace.

2. How is the Church the Teacher of Truth? Firstly, as the giver and keeper of Holy Scripture. At first the Church taught by word of mouth the Teaching of CHRIST and what the HOLY GHOST revealed to the Apostles afterwards. Gradually the teaching of the Apostles was committed to writing. The Church accepted as divine truth the Old Testament from the Jews, and the New Testament which she had formed because written under the guidance of the HOLY GHOST.

3. How else does the Church teach?

By means of General Councils, whose declarations and decisions are afterwards accepted by the Church throughout the world.

The first four General Councils are :

(1) *Nicaea, A.D. 325.* At which Arianism, or denial of the Godhead of CHRIST, was condemned.

(2) *Constantinople, A.D. 381.* At which the perfect Manhood of CHRIST was decreed.

(3) *Ephesus, A.D. 431.* The Heresy that there are two Persons in CHRIST was condemned.

(4) *Chalcedon, A.D. 451.* The Heresy that the two Natures of CHRIST are not distinct was condemned.

4. How else does the Church teach?

By what is implied in worship, universally commanded or allowed. For instance, adoration of CHRIST in worship teaches the Godhead of our LORD.

5. How else does the Church teach?

By the writings and teachings of representative teachers, which, extending over a sufficient time and not protested against, come to be the accepted teaching of the whole Body.

By these methods the Church draws out and expresses what is contained in Holy Scripture. "One ought to fortify one's faith in two ways, firstly, by the authority of the Divine Scriptures, and secondly, by the tradition of the Catholic Church." The truth is that which has been taught everywhere, always, and by all within the pale of the Church.

6. What is Development of Doctrine?

This means, either development in the expression of truth owing to change in the use of language and other causes, or development of spiritual apprehension of the meaning of the truth committed to the Church, but there can never be any additions to the Faith once delivered to the Saints.

7. Do not many reject the authority of the Church? Yes, it is rejected by many who accept the authority of Holy Scripture, yet the Scriptures are not the source, but the outcome, of the Church, and this rejection is opposed to our LORD'S Teaching about the work of the HOLY GHOST and the office of the Church.

8. Is Papal Infallibility a Catholic Doctrine? This Doctrine is unsupported by Holy Scripture, is inconsistent with facts and teaching in the Undivided Church, and implies that Communion with the see of Rome is necessary to Communion with the Church, which is not true.

XVI.—THE COMMUNION OF SAINTS

1. Who are the Saints? All the Baptized still in the State of Salvation. (1 *Cor.* i. 2.)

2. What is the Communion of Saints? The common life and fellowship which all the Saints, living and departed, have with our LORD,

the Angels, and with one another. (*Rom. xii. 4, 5; 1 Cor. xii. 12-27.*)

3. **What Communion have the Saints on earth?** All the baptized form one universal Brotherhood and are bound to share their material and spiritual wealth. The Saints on earth and those departed help and influence each other.

4. **What is the state of the Departed?** The departed are conscious and alive. The state may be divided into—

(1) *The state of the lost* who pass at once into sufferings, either identical with or like those of hell.

(2) *The state of those of the faithful* who pass into an intermediate state of preparation for the Final Judgment. This state is one of rest, discipline and growth in grace. The discipline will be such as they need to attain the Beatific Vision of God.

(3) *The state of those of the faithful* who pass to a condition which is in the nearer Presence of CHRIST than life on earth can be.

5. **What Communion have we with the Saints departed?** We should often think of them and imitate them. We may pray for them that they may grow in penitence and holiness, we may ask them to pray for us, and we should observe the days appointed by the Church to commemorate them.

6. **Is it right to pray for the Saints Departed?** It is the universal teaching and practice of the Church to pray for those in the intermediate state who are being prepared for the Final Judgment. They are not yet made perfect and are helped by the prayers of saints on earth, and especially by the offering of the Holy Sacrifice.

7. **Is it right to ask the Saints to pray for us?** There is nothing for or against this practice in Scripture, and it does not seem to have been used much in the Church during the first three centuries. From the fourth century this practice was an ordinary form of christian devotion throughout the East and West. There is danger of giving undue honour and importance to the Saints, but there is also danger of not giving them their rightful place. If English people prayed for the departed and asked them to pray for us there would be a great deal less indifference, worldliness, and sordid commercialism.

8. **What hinders the Communion of Saints?** All selfishness, individualism, exclusiveness, caste, and class distinctions. The unrighteous industrial system which makes a few very rich and many very poor is one of the causes of the Communion of Saints meaning so little to English people. If we deny a doctrine in our social and industrial life we

are not likely to really believe it in our religious life.

XVII.—THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS.

1. **What is sin?** Sin is any failure or refusal to do the Will of GOD.

2. **How do we learn the terrible nature of sin?** From the suffering of body and soul which sin causes, from the Sufferings and Death of JESUS CHRIST, and from the fact that the wrath of GOD abides on sin.

3. **What are the two kinds of sin?** *Original sin*, in which we are born, and *actual sin*, which we ourselves commit.

4. **What are the two kinds of actual sin?** *Mortal sin*, or a grievous wilful sin which separates man from GOD; and *Venial sin*, or a sin of weakness, which leads on to mortal sin, if not checked and given up. (*S. John* xiii. 10; 1 *S. John* v. 16, 17.)

5. **In how many ways is actual sin committed?** By thought, word, deed, and omission.

6. **What are the seven roots of deadly sin?**

(1) *Pride*—an undue esteem of ourselves, or the desire to be thought other than we are.

(2) *Covetousness*—an undue desire of money or any other earthly thing.

(3) *Lust*—an undue desire of carnal pleasure:

(4) *Envy*—an undue sadness at our neighbour's good.

(5) *Gluttony*—an undue care for eating and drinking.

(6) *Anger*—an undue desire of revenge.

(7) *Sloth*—an undue dislike of work or effort.

7. What sins forerun the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost?

(1) Presuming on God's mercy.

(2) Low spirits and despair.

(3) Resisting known truth.

(4) Envy at others' spiritual good.

(5) Putting off and refusing to repent.

(6) "Hardness of heart and contempt of God's Word and Commandment."

8. What sins cry to God for vengeance?

(1) Wilful murder and unnatural lust.

(2) Oppression of the poor, widows, and orphans.

(3) Defrauding labourers of their just and due wages.

9. In what ways do we lead others into sin?

(1) By counsel. (5) By approbation.

(2) By command. (6) By connivance.

(3) By consent. (7) By partaking.

(4) By provocation. (8) By defence of the sin.

(9) By concealing a sin we are bound to make known.

10. **How does God forgive sins?** God forgives sin, on our repentance, through JESUS CHRIST. The Precious Blood is applied to our souls through the Sacraments of the Church, especially Holy Baptism and Absolution.

XVIII.—THE RESURRECTION OF THE BODY.

1. **What is Death?** Death is the separation of body and soul. It is the last earthly penalty due to sin.

2. **What is the Resurrection?** The Resurrection is the re-union of body and soul, and the raising of both again. Our bodies will be the same bodies, but changed like our LORD'S Body, glorious, powerful, and spiritual. They will no longer be subject to weakness, disease, and death. (*S. John* v. 28, 29.)

3. **Is the Resurrection necessary?** The Resurrection is necessary, in order that the whole man, body and soul, may be perfected in Heaven.

4. **Is the Resurrection difficult to believe?** Many find this doctrine difficult to believe, but our LORD, Who shall change our bodies, is Almighty GOD. GOD Who changes our bodies into dust can bring them back from dust again. Our LORD'S Resurrection is the pledge of ours. (*S. John* xx. 19-31; *Phil.* iii. 20, 21.)

5. How ought we to treat the Body?

The body is not annihilated at death, but in the next life we shall have a body, the outward manifestation of the soul. The body must be trained and disciplined.

(1) *We ought to keep the body healthy.* We need good food, fresh air, exercise, plenty of work and sleep. We must pray and work, that all God's children may also have these necessary things for their bodies.

(2) *We ought to keep our bodies* in temperance, soberness, and chastity. The body is a good servant but a bad master. We must learn to discipline the body in food, drink, sleep, smoking, etc. We ought to have a definite Rule for keeping the days of Fasting and Abstinence. We must avoid every occasion of impurity, and resist every temptation at once.

(3) *We ought to fight against disease* and death, against physical degeneration and moral decay, and strive to bring about such social reform as shall enable all to live godly, righteous, and sober lives.

(4) *We ought to receive the Blessed Sacrament* regularly, and especially before death, for our sinful bodies are made clean by His Body, and the Blessed Sacrament is the pledge of our Resurrection. We must work for reform in the conduct of funerals, and our churchyards should be made beautiful and cared for.

XIX.—THE LIFE EVERLASTING

1. **What is the Life Everlasting?** The life upon which the Blessed will enter after the Resurrection.

2. **What is Heaven?** The final state of Salvation. It will be a state of perfect happiness, of complete development and exercise of our Being, and of perfect union with God, the Holy Angels, and the Blessed Saints.

3. **What do we know of our Lord's Life in Heaven?** We know that He is no longer subject to suffering or death, that He has perfect Happiness, with no fear of change. Our Life in Heaven will have the same three characteristics.

4. **Will all the Baptized attain to Life Everlasting?** Attainment of the life everlasting is conditional on the earnest, life-long keeping of the Baptismal Vow.

5. **How can we make sure of Heaven?** The only way is to gain a true Conversion to God, manifesting itself in life-long Repentance and Obedience to God's Will. The Grace of Final Perseverance is given to those who consecrate their wills in whole-hearted Self-Surrender to co-operate with Divine Grace.

6. **What do we know about the life after death?**

(1) There is an unending life of Blessedness

for those who accept and fulfil the Will of GOD.

(2) There is a possibility of refusing GOD's Love and choosing evil, and those who finally refuse to repent will be finally separated from GOD. Nothing is of faith as to the nature of the suffering of hell, but the witness of the Church is unchanging that this suffering is unending.

(3) The only revealed time of probation is this life, though of course we must believe that GOD will give every man the fullest opportunity to accept or reject His offer, and that GOD will judge each man with infinite mercy and justice.

(4) The faithful departed are in an intermediate state of purification and preparation for the Final Judgment.

(5) The faithful departed are benefited by the prayers of the living, and by the offering of the Holy Sacrifice.

(6) We may ask the faithful departed to pray for us.

(7) It has usually been held that the great Saints are admitted to the Beatific Vision before the Resurrection.

XX.—THE TEN COMMANDMENTS (i)

1. You said, that your Godfathers and Godmothers did promise for you, that

you should keep God's Commandments. Tell me how many there be? Ten.

2. Which be they? *The same which GOD spake in the twentieth Chapter of Exodus, saying, I am the LORD thy GOD, Who brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.*

(1) *Thou shalt have none other gods but Me.*

(2) *Thou shalt not make to thyself any graven image.*

(3) *Thou shalt not take the Name of the LORD thy GOD in vain.*

(4) *Remember that thou keep holy the Sabbath day.*

3. What dost thou chiefly learn by these Commandments? *I learn two things : my duty towards GOD, and my duty towards my Neighbour.*

4. What is thy duty towards God? *My duty towards GOD, is to believe in Him, to fear Him, and to love Him with all my heart, with all my mind, with all my soul, and with all my strength ; to worship Him, to give Him thanks, to put my whole trust in Him, to call upon Him, to honour His holy Name and His Word, and to serve Him truly all the days of my life.*

5. What do these Commandments teach us?

(1) *The First Commandment teaches us to know, love, and serve GOD, and forbids Deism,*

Fatalism, Worldliness, and holding GOD responsible for the consequences of sin.

(2) The Second Commandment teaches us to worship GOD in the way appointed, and forbids covetousness and all worship of money, position, and success.

(3) The Third Commandment teaches us to reverence the Name and Character of GOD and everything else for GOD's sake, and forbids all blasphemy and indifference.

(4) The Fourth Commandment teaches us to observe Sunday and Holy Days as days of worship, the necessity of labour for all, and the right of rest and recreation for all.

XXI.—THE TEN COMMANDMENTS (ii)

1. Repeat the rest of the Commandments.

(5) *Honour thy father and thy mother.*

(6) *Thou shalt do no murder.*

(7) *Thou shalt not commit adultery.*

(8) *Thou shalt not steal.*

(9) *Thou shalt not bear false witness.*

(10) *Thou shalt not covet.*

2. What do these Commandments teach us ?

(5) The Fifth Commandment teaches us to honour our parents and all who exercise authority from GOD, both ecclesiastical and civil.

Parents and Rulers must be worthy of honour, and those under them must be loyal and obedient.

(6) The Sixth Commandment teaches us to be gentle, patient, and loving towards others, and forbids all anger, scandal, bad example, hatred, malice and murder, and all that causes disease, premature death, and the infant death rate.

(7) The Seventh Commandment teaches us to be pure in mind and heart, and forbids impure thoughts, words and looks, all that hinders or spoils Holy Marriage and Home Life, and all that tempts people to lust or to prevent conception.

(8) The Eighth Commandment teaches us to be honest and straightforward in all our dealings, and forbids all stealing, unjust dealing, unjust ways of making money, all taking advantage of the weakness and ignorance of our brothers, and robbing the worker of a righteous share of the product of his labour.

(9) The Ninth Commandment teaches us to be truthful and considerate, and to put the best construction on everything; and forbids back-biting, slander, detraction, and every sort of lie.

(10) The Tenth Commandment teaches us to be happy and contented, and to pray and work that all others may have all they need, both for body and soul.

3. What is thy duty towards thy Neighbour ? *My duty towards my Neighbour, is to love him as myself, and to do to all men, as I would they should do unto me : To love, honour, and succour my father and mother : To honour and obey the King, and all that are put in authority under him : To submit myself to all my governors, teachers, spiritual pastors and masters : To order myself lowly and reverently to all my betters : To hurt nobody by word nor deed : To be true and just in all my dealing : To bear no malice nor hatred in my heart : To keep my hands from picking and stealing, and my tongue from evil-speaking, lying, and slandering : To keep my body in temperance, soberness, and chastity : Not to covet nor desire other men's goods ; but to learn and labour truly to get mine own living, and to do my duty in that state of life, unto which it shall please GOD to call me.*

If our duty to our neighbour were taken seriously by the English people, and its precepts carried out into social, industrial and political life, all sweating, over-working, under-paying, and all degrading poverty would disappear.

XXII.—THE LORD'S PRAYER. (i)

1. Can you keep God's Commandments? *I am not able to walk in the Commandments of GOD, and to serve Him, without His*

special grace; which I must learn at all times to call for by diligent prayer.

2. Can you say the Lord's Prayer?

Our FATHER, Which art in heaven,

<i>Hallowed be Thy Name</i>	} <i>In earth,</i> <i>As it is in heaven.</i>
<i>Thy kingdom come</i>	
<i>Thy will be done</i>	

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil:

For Thine is the kingdom, The power, and the glory, For ever and ever. Amen.

3. Which is the best Prayer? The LORD'S Prayer, because our LORD gave it to us and because it contains a message to GOD about every human need, either for body or soul, for this life or for that to come.

4. Why do we say "our Father"? We approach GOD in words which remind us that we have a Common FATHER in Heaven, so we are brethren together on earth, praying as a family for each other.

5. What do we ask for in the first Petition? We pray that we may all manifest the Divine Justice and Love, and that our modern cities may not grow despair and breed atheists. (*Rom. ii. 24.*)

6. What in the second Petition? We

pray that the perfect reign of CHRIST may come on earth. We either want this reign or we don't. If we don't we should not pray for it. If we do we must do more than pray for it—we must live for it and labour for it.

7. **What in the third Petition?** We pray that GOD's children may have life and be happy and well as they are in Heaven. (*S. John x. 10.*)

8. **What in the fourth Petition?** We pray that all people may have all they need both for body and soul. It is hypocrisy to say these words if we are not working and praying to secure that all the people are properly fed, housed, and clothed.

9. **What in the fifth Petition?** We pray GOD to forgive us our sins on the condition that we forgive others. We ask GOD to punish us if we do not do so.

10. **What in the sixth Petition?** We pray for GOD's Blessing on the Mission and Rescue work of the Church. We must pray and work for Social Reform in the control of public houses and what is sold in them, the housing of the people, the provision of work for the unemployed and the care of starving children and old people. We must remove temptations and deliver all from the deadly evils of drink, lust, gambling, worldliness, covetousness, indifference, secularism and blasphemy.

11. **What is the Doxology?** The Doxology is a short Hymn of Praise and was added by the Church. We cannot say the Doxology unless we really want the things we have asked for. "*Amen*" means "*so be it.*" It is a final assent to what is contained in the Prayer.

XXIII.—THE LORD'S PRAYER (ii)

1. **What desirest thou of God in this Prayer?** *I desire my LORD GOD our heavenly FATHER, Who is the giver of all goodness, to send His grace unto me, and to all people ; that we may worship Him, serve Him, and obey Him, as we ought to do. And I pray unto GOD, that He will send us all things that be needful both for our souls and bodies ; and that He will be merciful unto us, and forgive us our sins ; and that it will please Him to save and defend us in all dangers ghostly and bodily ; and that He will keep us from all sin and wickedness, and from our ghostly enemy, and from everlasting death. And this I trust He will do of His mercy and goodness, through our LORD JESUS CHRIST. And therefore I say, Amen, So be it.*

2. **What does the Church teach us in this desire?**

(1) That all are children of one Common FATHER.

(2) That all goodness, in the heathen, the indifferent, and great sinners as well as in Christians, comes from GOD.

(3) That we all need GOD's grace to resist temptation and to worship, love, and obey GOD.

(4) That all GOD's people need fresh air, good food and drink, exercise, recreation and rest, as well as truth and grace, and that we must work and pray that all may have them.

(5) That all need GOD's forgiveness and that GOD will forgive us if we are penitent and forgive others.

(6) That we may pray for deliverance from hunger and bad drains, disease and premature death, as well as temptation and sin.

(7) That we must let GOD guide, and restrain us, and keep us from all acts and habits which would stunt our life and kill our joy. That it is the law of our being to be good, that only by being righteous can we enjoy life, and that it is one of the devil's worst lies to say that vice is pleasant and virtue painful.

(8) That while GOD will have all men to be saved, yet that He cannot destroy or ignore man's free will, and therefore we must pray against "hardness of heart and contempt of GOD's Holy Will and Commandments" which end in everlasting death or banishment from GOD and Heaven.

(9) That in JESUS CHRIST GOD's mercy and

goodness are revealed. That we must let our heart's desire go out to JESUS and then we shall be right with GOD and our fellow-men, because we are doing our duty to both GOD and man and can make the final assent and say "Amen, so be it."

XXIV.—THE SACRAMENTS. (i)

1. **What is the second office of the Church?** To dispense the Grace of GOD. GOD the HOLY GHOST dispenses Grace chiefly through the Sacraments of the Church.

2. **What are the Sacraments?** The divinely appointed means by which the benefits of the Incarnation and Atonement are applied to souls. The Incarnation is the use of the outward to express and convey the inward. Our LORD used external means of healing, and human needs demand objective means.

3. **How many Sacraments hath Christ ordained in His Church?** *Two only, as generally necessary to salvation, that is to say, Baptism, and the Supper of the LORD.*

4. **What meanest thou by this word Sacrament?** *I mean an outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual grace given unto us, ordained by CHRIST Himself, as a means whereby we receive the same, and a pledge to assure us thereof.*

5. **How many parts are there in a Sacrament?** *Two ; the outward visible sign, and the inward spiritual grace.*

6. **How many Sacraments are there?**
In the Early Church the word was used to denote any sacred event, action or thing, but since the twelfth century the word has been restricted to seven rites of the Church. The Church Catechism describes Baptism and Communion as "generally necessary to Salvation."

7. **What is the gift in each Sacrament?**

- | | | |
|--------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| (1) HOLY BAPTISM - | - gives | LIFE.
<i>S. John</i>
x. 10. |
| (2) CONFIRMATION - | strengthens | |
| (3) ABSOLUTION - | restores | |
| (4) HOLY COMMUNION | sustains | |
| (5) HOLY ORDER - | propagates
(spiritual) | |
| (6) HOLY MARRIAGE | propagates
(physical) | |
| (7) ANOINTING | renews (spiritual
and physical) | |

8. **Are the Sacraments necessary?**
Holy Baptism and Holy Communion are necessary to Salvation. Absolution may become necessary if mortal sin has been committed, and Confirmation is requisite to the fullness of christian life. The rest are not necessary, except in obedience to GOD's Vocation or other special reason.

9. **What are the parts of a Sacrament?** The *matter* is the outward thing used, the *form* denotes the Sacramental Words used, the *substance of the Sacrament* is the inward thing, and the *virtue of the Sacrament* denotes the benefits conveyed.

10. **What is Sacramentalism?** Sacramentalism is a great principle running through the universe—the union of the outward and material with the inward and spiritual. Bread, for instance, not merely signifies but conveys physical life. Sacramentalism means that human nature, physical and spiritual, is sacred and from GOD. The co-existence of religion and extreme poverty is the natural outcome of the denial of Sacramentalism. Religion tends to become hypocrisy if it does not take care that all the people are properly fed, housed, and clothed as well as their souls converted and endowed with virtue.

XXV.—THE HOLY SACRAMENTS. (ii)

1. **What does the Holy Catholic Church teach?**

(1) Every man needs GOD'S Forgiveness. (*Eph.* ii. 3.)

(2) GOD'S Forgiveness is given to us when we are brought into union with JESUS CHRIST.

(3) Union with CHRIST is threefold :

(a) The Union of Nature.

(b) The Union of our Hearts with His Heart.

(c) The Union of Likeness.

(4) Our LORD'S work for us is twofold :

(a) The Redemption He wrought for us by His Death and Resurrection.

(b) The work He is doing in us in applying His merits through the Church and Sacraments.

(5) Union with CHRIST has two sides :

(a) GOD'S SIDE : Each person is united to CHRIST in Holy Baptism.

(b) MAN'S SIDE : This union is made effectual by Repentance and Faith.

(6) GOD gives Grace through outward means.

(a) Because Human Nature is Body and Soul, i.e., Union of outward and visible with inward and spiritual.

(b) To enable us to realize that GOD loves us and that we have received His gifts.

(c) Because we are all bound together in the great Family of GOD, and He wills that we should receive gifts through others.

2. What is the Teaching of the Prayer Book ?

(1) *The General Thanksgiving* : We thank GOD for "The Means of Grace."

(2) *Article XXV. Of the Sacraments.* "Sacraments ordained . . . our faith in Him." See also the rest of the Article.

3. What ought every christian to do ?

(1) Every christian ought to strive daily to keep the promises made in Holy Baptism.

(2) Every christian ought to strive to be a strong and perfect one in the power of the HOLY GHOST given in Confirmation.

(3) Every christian ought to seek Absolution, if he has fallen into grievous sin, or is not at peace with GOD.

(4) Every christian ought to aim at making a good Communion every Sunday and Holy Day, and to attend the Holy Eucharist when unable to receive the Holy Communion.

(5) Every christian ought to think and speak highly of Holy Orders, Christian Marriage, and all other Means of Grace.

(6) Every christian ought to endeavour to receive the Means of Grace with reverence, repentance, faith, and thanksgiving: to lead others to do the same, and to adorn the doctrine of GOD our Saviour in all things.

XXVI.—HOLY BAPTISM**1. What does the Holy Catholic Church teach ?**

(1) Holy Baptism is the first christian Sacrament, by which we are made christians, and receive the Forgiveness of Sins, the new Life of CHRIST, and admission into the Catholic

Church. It is the Sacrament of equality of opportunity, for it admits all, without distinction of money, position, or sex to equal and full privileges in the Divine Society. (1 Cor. xii. 13; Gal. iii. 27, 28.)

(a) *The Forgiveness of Sins.* (Acts ii. 4, xxii. 6.)

(b) *The new Life of CHRIST.* (S. John iii. 5, xv. 1-6.)

(c) *Admission into the Catholic Church.* (S. Matt. xxviii. 19.) The converts at Pentecost and at Samaria, the Eunuch, Saul, Cornelius, the Jailer, were all made christians and members of the Church by Baptism, and there is no other way appointed by God.

(2) Our Salvation, now and in Heaven, depends on our keeping the promises we made in Baptism.

(a) *To give up what is wrong.* To give up every person, place, or thing which leads us into sin, and to resist every temptation.

(b) *To believe what is true.* The Catholic Faith, the faith always taught by the Church and "once delivered unto the Saints." (S. Jude 3.)

(c) *To do what is right.* We promise not to follow our own, but GOD'S Will. To know, love, and serve GOD.

2. **What is the Teaching of the Prayer Book ?**

(1) **What is the outward visible sign or form in Baptism ?** *Water ; wherein the person is baptized In the Name of the FATHER, and of the SON, and of the HOLY GHOST.*

(2) **What is the inward and spiritual grace ?** *A death unto sin, and a new birth unto righteousness : for being by nature born in sin, and the children of wrath, we are hereby made the children of grace.*

(3) **What is required of persons to be baptized ?** *Repentance, whereby they forsake sin ; and Faith, whereby they stedfastly believe the promises of GOD made to them in that Sacrament.*

(4) **Why then are Infants baptized, when by reason of their tender age they cannot perform them ?** *Because they promise them both by their Sureties ; which promise, when they come to age, themselves are bound to perform.*

3. **What every christian ought to do.**

(1) Every christian ought to keep the Baptismal Vow, for there is no promise of salvation, either from sin here, or of Heaven hereafter, except to those who do so.

(2) Every christian ought to endeavour to bring to Holy Baptism unbaptized children and adults, to stir up others to keep the Baptismal

Vow, and to realize the great Love of God in this Sacrament.

(3) Every christian ought to know how to baptize in case of emergency. No one should die unbaptized, and when a Priest cannot be found, any one may baptize, though a communicant should be got if possible. To baptize, two things are necessary—water must be poured on the forehead and these words said aloud: "I baptize thee in the Name of the FATHER, and of the SON, and of the HOLY GHOST. Amen."

(4) Every christian ought to be ready to act as a Godparent, to strive earnestly to fulfil the duties enjoined, and to be present at the Confirmation of their Godchildren.

XXVII.—CONFIRMATION

I. What does the Holy Catholic Church teach?

(1) JESUS CHRIST promised to send the HOLY SPIRIT. (*S. John* xiv. 15-26, xv. 26, 27; *Acts* i. 8.)

(2) His promise has been fulfilled.

(a) On the Day of Pentecost. (*Acts* ii.)

(b) In Confirmation. (*Acts* viii., xix.)

(3) The Church has practised Confirmation in every age, and always believed that the HOLY SPIRIT is given in this means of grace.

(4) The HOLY SPIRIT, also, of course, speaks to the hearts and consciences of all men apart from all Sacraments.

(5) Confirmation is a Sacrament by which we receive the HOLY GHOST, to make us strong and perfect christians, and soldiers of JESUS CHRIST.

2. What is the Teaching of the Prayer Book ?

(1) The teaching of the Prayer Book is essentially the same as that of the rest of the Catholic Church.

(2) *The Catechism* is "an instruction to be learned of every person" before Confirmation.

(3) The service for Confirmation brings out very clearly that the purpose of Confirmation is to convey *the gift of the HOLY GHOST*. All to be confirmed kneel before the Bishop; he lays his hand on the head of each one, after the example of the Apostles, saying a very beautiful prayer for the gift of GOD the HOLY GHOST.

(4) *The Renewal of the Baptismal Vow*. In many cases this Vow was made for us by our Sponsors in Baptism, and it is a very beautiful custom to renew these solemn promises to GOD at our Confirmation.

(5) *Admission to Communion*. The Prayer Book forbids any one to go to Communion until they are confirmed, or, at least, "ready and desirous to be confirmed."

3. What ought every christian to do ?

(1) Every christian ought to gain repentance and faith from GOD, to seek Confirmation as soon as he can say the Creed, the LORD'S Prayer, and the Ten Commandments, and to be further instructed in the Church Catechism set forth for that purpose.

(2) Every Godparent ought to remember that it is his promised duty to see that his God-children are properly prepared and presented to the Bishop for Confirmation.

(3) Every christian ought to stir up the gift of the HOLY GHOST that is in him by the laying on of the hands of the Bishop, and strive earnestly to be a true witness to JESUS CHRIST.

XXVIII.—ABSOLUTION

1. **Is there forgiveness of sins ?** Almighty GOD, of His infinite mercy and love, gives full and free forgiveness to all penitent sinners. There is "pardon through the Precious Blood" of JESUS CHRIST.

2. **How does God forgive sins ?** GOD forgives sins direct, apart from Church, Sacrament or Priest, in answer to prayer and penitence, and He has also appointed means or Sacraments by which forgiveness is conveyed to man.

3. **What is Holy Baptism ?** The Sacrament by which we are cleansed from original

sin, and also from actual sin, if we be guilty of any.

4. **What is Absolution?** The Sacrament by which the sins committed after Baptism are forgiven. It is the means by which the sinful member is restored to full membership in the Church, impaired or forfeited by sin.

5. **What is the teaching of the Bible?**

(1) "Repent, and be baptized every one of you . . . unto the remission of your sins." (*Acts* ii. 38.)

(2) "Arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins." (*Acts* xxii. 16.)

(3) "Receive ye the HOLY GHOST; whose soever sins ye forgive, they are forgiven unto them; whose soever sins ye retain, they are retained." (*S. John* xx. 22, 23, R.V.)

6. **What is the teaching of the Catholic Church?** The Church has always taught that our LORD gives forgiveness of sins in Holy Baptism and Absolution. She has always used the power to forgive penitent sinners in GOD'S Name and with His authority.

7. **What is the teaching of the Prayer Book?** The Prayer Book teaches plainly the same doctrine.

(1) *The Office for Holy Baptism* implies and asserts many times that forgiveness of sins is given in Baptism. This Sacrament is said to be "a death unto sin, and a new birth unto

righteousness," and in the Nicene Creed we profess our belief in "one Baptism for the remission of sins."

(2) *Absolution* is taught in many places :

(a) Morning Prayer : "*GOD hath given power and commandment to His Ministers to declare and pronounce to His people, being penitent, the Absolution and remission of their sins.*"

(b) Holy Communion : "*Let him come to me or to some other discreet and learned Minister of GOD'S Word, and open his grief ; that by the Ministry of GOD'S Holy Word he may receive the benefit of Absolution.*"

(c) Visitation of the Sick : The Priest is to move the sick person to make a special confession of his sins. Then "the Priest shall absolve him after this sort"—"*Our LORD JESUS CHRIST, Who hath left power to His Church to absolve all sinners who truly repent and believe in Him, of His great mercy forgive thee thine offences : and by His authority committed unto me, I absolve thee from all thy sins, in the Name of the FATHER, and of the SON, and of the HOLY GHOST. Amen.*"

(d) Ordination of a Priest : The Bishop lays his hands on the head of the Deacon, and says to him :—"Receive the HOLY GHOST for the office and work of a Priest in the Church of GOD now committed unto thee

by the imposition of our Hands. Whose sins thou dost forgive, they are forgiven, and whose sins thou dost retain, they are retained. And be thou a faithful Dispenser of the Word of GOD and of His Holy Sacraments: in the Name of the FATHER, and of the SON, and of the HOLY GHOST. Amen."

8. What is the Teaching of the Reformers? The Reformers laid great stress on the abuses to which private Confession was liable and on its voluntary character, but they did not deny Absolution or give up the practice of private Confession.

Cranmer recognizes private Confession as a regular part of Church Discipline. "*That ye both in your preaching and secret Confession shall move your parishioners to such works.*" He speaks of auricular Confession as "most convenient," and recommends those with troubled consciences to seek "consolation, counsel, and absolution individually from the Priest." His opinions changed much, but though he emphasized the voluntary character of auricular Confession he never seems to have denied that it was useful or necessary for those who needed it. It is said that Cranmer confessed privately to a Priest during the last days of his life and on the morning of his execution, but it is difficult to estimate the value of such evidence as we possess.

Ridley allows Confession, if made to a helpful Minister, and with a view to needed instruction and comfort. “*Confession unto the Minister which is able to instruct, correct, comfort, and inform the weak, wounded, and ignorant conscience; indeed I have ever thought might do much good to CHRIST’S Congregation, and so I assure you I think even at this day.*”—*Letter to Master West.*

Latimer allows private Confession where special circumstances require it, but carefully guards it from superstition and abuse. “*They that are not satisfied with (the General Absolution) may go to some godly, learned Minister, which is able to instruct and comfort them with the Word of GOD.*” “To speak of right and true confession, I would to GOD it were kept in England, for it is a good thing. Those who find themselves grieved in conscience might go to a learned man, and there fetch of him comfort of the Word of GOD, and so come to a quiet conscience. And sure it grieveth me much that such confessions are not kept in England.”—*Sermons*, vol. ii, p. 852.

9. **What is the benefit of Absolution?** Absolution is more than putting away the punishment due to sin, and has a positive side, giving encouragement, cheerfulness, and buoyancy to the true penitent. The benefit of Absolution depends on the depth of our Repentance.

XXIX.—CONFESSION. (i)

1. **Is Confession necessary?** It is an essential condition of GOD's Forgiveness.

(1) "He that covereth his sins shall not prosper, but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy." (*Prov.* xxviii. 13.)

(2) "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins." (1 *S. John* i. 9.)

2. **What are the three kinds of Confession?**

(1) *To GOD only.* Have you ever made a really careful self-examination and confessed your sins one by one to GOD?

(2) *To one another.* This is ordered in the "Rules of the Band Societies" of the Wesleyan Methodists, and also in the Bible. (*S. James* v. 16.)

(3) *To GOD before His Minister.* This is now used by many hundreds of men and women in the Church of England, and their number increases every day.

3. **What are the reasons for using this third kind of Confession?**

(1) *It is taught in the Bible.*

(a) "He shall confess that he hath sinned in that thing: and he shall bring his trespass offering unto the LORD for his sin which he hath sinned." (*Lev.* v. 5, 6.)

(b) "And Joshua said unto Achan, My son, give, I pray thee, glory to the LORD GOD of Israel, and make confession unto Him, and *tell me* now what thou hast done; hide it not from me." (*Joshua* vii. 19.)

(c) "Then went out to him (S. John Baptist) Jerusalem, and all Judæa, and all the region round about Jordan, and were baptized of him in Jordan, *confessing their sins*." (*S. Matt.* iii. 5, 6.)

(d) "And many that believed came (to S. Paul), and *confessed*, and showed their deeds." (*Acts* xix. 18.)

(e) The sick man is to call for the Elders (Presbyters or Priests) of the Church, "and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him. Confess your faults one to another." (*S. James* v. 14-16.)

These are only a few out of many places in the Bible which teach Confession to GOD in the presence of the Priest.

(2) *It is taught in the Prayer Book.*

(a) *Holy Communion*: If any one has not got a quiet conscience, he is to go to a Minister and "open his grief," i.e., confess his sins.

(b) *Visitation of sick*: The Priest is ordered to move the sick person to make a special "confession of his sins." Surely the same must often be necessary for those who,

(8) "*A Priest does not differ from any other man.*" This is not true, because a Priest dare not repeat a word spoken in Confession ; he has the *cure* of souls committed to him by GOD, and he has authority to pronounce Absolution.

(9) "*No man can forgive sins.*" This is true in one sense, but GOD can and does forgive sins through His Ministers.

(10) "*I don't like Confession.*" No more do I, but I do it for GOD's honour, and the conversion and salvation of my sinful soul.

(11) "*No man between my soul and God.*" This is sheer nonsense. The truth is, that we can have no gift from GOD without a man (or a woman) coming between us and GOD (life, food, education, clothes, truth, grace, etc.). GOD has appointed the Ministry to bring us truth and grace, and it is our duty and privilege to receive GOD's gifts with love and thankfulness in the way in which GOD wills to give them.

2. What are the chief obstacles to Confession ?

(1) *Prejudice* : There must be some reason why the world, the flesh, and the devil hate Confession. Put away prejudice, and ask those who use this means of grace, and they will tell you it is a great blessing to their souls.

(2) *Cowardice* : Many talk against Confes-

sion because they are really *afraid* to go. No doubt it does require some courage to confess and not to be ashamed to say so, but God gives great grace to those who trust Him. Pray hard, and you will get courage to do what you know is right.

(3) *Impenitence*: This is the real reason why many people speak against Confession or do not go. No one ought to go until they have gained a penitent heart from God. How long is this to be?

XXXI.—THE PRACTICE OF CONFESSION

1. **Is Confession necessary?** The Church requires that open and notorious sinners who have been excommunicated shall be received and reconciled by open penance, but otherwise Confession to God before a Minister is not necessary for every one.

2. **Can you get forgiveness without Absolution?** God gives forgiveness as He wills, and we may be sure that He does so without Absolution in the case of any earnest penitent who either does not know about this means of grace, or does not understand it, or is unable to obtain it.

3. **Was not Confession given up at the Reformation?** This cannot be so, for it is

plainly taught in the Prayer Book. The Reformers wished to restore frequent Communion, and were asked whether it was necessary to go to Confession before every Communion. The "Long Exhortation" is their answer to that question. They say in effect—make careful self-examination before every Communion, and if your conscience accuses you of serious sin for which you have not got GOD'S forgiveness, then make a good Confession and get forgiveness in the way appointed by GOD. The exhortation was first addressed to people who believed in Absolution, and gives no sanction for widespread neglect of a means of grace appointed by our LORD.

4. Is regular Confession a good thing? Frequent or regular Confession is good for those who fall into deadly sin frequently or regularly and for those who are aiming at a high standard of Christian Life. The frequency of Confession must depend on the needs and spiritual life of individuals.

5. What is required of those who go to Confession? To make a careful self-examination and to gain a deep and true contrition from GOD.

6. How do we make Self-examination?

(1) We ask the HOLY SPIRIT to keep us.

(2) We meditate on the sufferings of JESUS

CHRIST and the suffering caused by sin in the world.

(3) We then go over the period since our last Confession and examine ourselves by the rule of GOD's Commandments, or the two Duties in the Catechism, or by some form of questions, and write down all the sins we can remember.

7. **How do we gain Contrition?** By asking GOD for it and by meditating on the death of JESUS CHRIST.

8. **How do we make a good Confession?** We go to Church, spend some time in prayer asking GOD for grace to make a good Confession, then go and kneel in the appointed place. The Priest gives us GOD's Blessing. Then we confess all the sins we can remember without wilfully keeping back any, using the form of Confession appointed. The Priest then gives us advice, penance, and Absolution. We then go back to the Church and thank GOD for His great mercy and love in this Sacred Ministry.

XXXII.—HOLY COMMUNION. (i)

I. **Why was the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper ordained?** *For the continual remembrance of the Sacrifice of the Death of CHRIST, and of the benefits which we receive thereby.*

2. What is the outward part or sign of the Lord's Supper? *Bread and Wine, which the LORD hath commanded to be received.*

3. What is the inward part, or thing signified? *The Body and Blood of CHRIST, which are verily and indeed taken and received by the faithful in the LORD'S Supper.*

4. What are the benefits whereof we are partakers thereby? *The strengthening and refreshing of our souls by the Body and Blood of CHRIST, as our bodies are by the Bread and Wine.*

5. What is required of them who come to the Lord's Supper? *To examine themselves, whether they repent them truly of their former sins, steadfastly purposing to lead a new life; have a lively faith in GOD'S mercy through CHRIST, with a thankful remembrance of His death; and be in charity with all men.*

6. When was the Holy Communion instituted? By our LORD the night before His Crucifixion. It has been continuously offered in the Church since the Day of Pentecost. Only a Priest can consecrate, and the recipients must be baptized and in the state of salvation. (*S. John vi. 22-56; S. Matt. xxvi. 26-29; S. Mark xiv. 22-25; S. Luke xxii. 18-20; 1 Cor. xi. 23-25.*)

7. What is the effect of Consecration? The Bread and Wine become the Body and Blood of JESUS CHRIST. This is the teaching

of Holy Scripture, of the Undivided Church, and is implied in the continuous adoration of our LORD in the Sacrament by the Catholic Church.

8. Can we explain this mystery? It is better to use the language of Scripture and not attempt to explain or form any theory as to the manner of our LORD's Presence.

9. Why was this Sacrament ordained?
To be—

(1) The Sacrifice or worship of the Church.
(*S. Luke* xxii. 19; *Rev.* iv, v.)

(2) The food of our souls. (*S. John* vi. 22-58.)

(3) The means of our Union with CHRIST and with one another. (*S. John* xv. 1-17.)

10. Sum up the Doctrine of the Church?

(1) The Body and Blood of CHRIST are present after Consecration in the elements of Bread and Wine.

(2) This Presence is a real Presence of our LORD.

(3) This Presence is objective, that is, independent of the faith of the recipient.

(4) The Body and Blood of CHRIST in the Sacrament are offered in Sacrifice to Almighty God.

(5) It is the Spiritual Body and Blood of the risen CHRIST which are present and offered to God.

(6) The Holy Sacrifice of the Eucharist is the presentation of the same offering as the Sacrifice of Calvary and the Sacrifice in Heaven.

XXXIII.—HOLY COMMUNION (ii)

1. **What is the meaning of Sacrifice?** The main idea of sacrifice is that of dedication to GOD. The fact of sin brought into sacrifice the idea of death, but the true idea of sacrifice is the dedication of life to GOD. In the Atonement this took the form of dedication through death.

2. **How is the Holy Eucharist a Sacrifice?** The Holy Eucharist is the offering to GOD of the Body and Blood of JESUS CHRIST present in the Blessed Sacrament. The Atonement is the offering of that Sacrifice on the Cross. The worship of Heaven is the offering of that Sacrifice by our LORD Himself in Heaven. The Eucharist is the offering of that Sacrifice on earth. This is the teaching of Scripture and the Undivided Church. (*S. Luke* xxii. 19 ; *1 Cor.* xi. 24, 25 ; *Heb.* x. 1-13 ; *Rev.* iv. v.)

3. **For what objects do we offer the Holy Sacrifice?**

- (1) The honour and glory of GOD.
- (2) In thanksgiving for all GOD's Blessings.
- (3) For the forgiveness of sins.

(4) For all we need, both for body and soul, for ourselves, and for others.

4. **What do we receive in the Holy Communion?** The Body and Blood of JESUS CHRIST to be our "spiritual food and sustenance." All communicants receive the Body and Blood of CHRIST, but the benefits of the Sacrament depend on the depth of our repentance and self-surrender to GOD.

5. **What are the benefits of the Sacrament?** The strengthening of the union with CHRIST given in Baptism, purifying of the soul and body, strength to avoid sin, to resist temptation, and obey GOD's holy Will, the spiritual joy of communion with CHRIST, the Holy Angels, and Blessed Saints, and the gift of eternal life.

6. **How often may we receive Holy Communion?** If we are in the state of salvation, and are in earnest, striving to do GOD's Will in penitence, prayer, and work, we may receive Holy Communion every Sunday and Holy Day, or even every day if drawn thereto by spiritual hunger and thirst after Righteousness.

7. **What is necessary to make a good Communion?**

(1) *We ought to be in the state of salvation.* We must have committed no serious sin since Baptism, or our sins must be forgiven. If we

are uncertain or have not a quiet conscience it is wise to make a good confession.

(2) *We ought to make a special preparation of penitence and prayer.*

(3) *We ought to be fasting* (i.e., abstaining from all food and drink) *from midnight at least.* This is a universal custom of the Church, which is known to have been observed in early times. S. Augustine said: "It has seemed good to the HOLY GHOST that in honour of so great a Sacrament, the Body of the LORD should enter the mouth of a Christian before other food."

XXXIV.—HOLY COMMUNION (iii)

1. **What is the third purpose of Holy Communion?** The means of our union with CHRIST and in Him with one another. It is the Sacrament of Brotherhood, and all communicants are pledged to treat all other communicants as brothers and sisters. "Thou shalt not turn away from him that hath need, but shalt share all things with thy brother, and shalt not say that anything is thine own. For if you are thus sharers in the imperishable things, how much more must you be sharers in those things that are perishable." (*Teaching of the Twelve Apostles*, century. i or ii.) (1 Cor. x. 16-24.)

2. **What is the chief Service of the**

Church? The Holy Eucharist ; and we ought to take part in it, at least every Sunday and the chief Holy Days, with great attention and devotion. It is a good habit to receive the Holy Communion every Sunday and Holy Day, but when unable to do so we should at least be present and join with the Church in offering the Holy Sacrifice to GOD. This is our bounden duty and service to GOD, and it is a very serious omission to stay away from this service on Sundays or chief Holy Days, unless rightly prevented.

3. **Why is Mattins substituted for the Holy Sacrifice?** This custom grew up during a very cold and worldly period, but it has no authority from GOD, nor sanction from the custom and teaching of the Catholic Church, or the Book of Common Prayer, which takes it for granted that the Holy Eucharist will be the normal Sunday morning worship. There is no sermon, collection, or notices appointed at any other service. To substitute a human service for the divinely appointed rite is superstition, for it puts the Church in the place of CHRIST, and makes the Commandment of GOD of none effect by our tradition.

4. **Why was this Sacrament ordained?** The purpose given in the Catechism is the "continual remembrance of the Sacrifice of the death of CHRIST." Much of the infidelity and

poverty and misery of England are the result of this Remembrance not being offered. We must restore the Holy Sacrifice as the one common service, and thus preach a Gospel every one can understand.

5. **What promise did our Lord make?** "I will draw all men unto Me." "For this cause (because they make little of Holy Communion) many are weak and sickly among you, and many sleep." Our LORD, offered in the Holy Sacrifice, will draw the weary and heavy-laden, sinners and unbelievers, idlers and hirelings, the very young and the very old, and common people, to come unto Him, and be saved and blessed.

6. **What names are given to this Sacrament?**

(1) *Holy Communion* means that all who partake of it are pledged to a common life and fellowship.

(2) *Holy Eucharist* indicates that worship is praise and thanksgiving, and that religion should be a joyful thing.

(3) *Holy Mass* indicates that this service is the same as that offered to GOD throughout the world, and that here, at least, we are at one with our fellow-christians throughout the church.

(4) *The Lord's Supper* indicates that this service took the place of the Jewish Passover, the festival of deliverance from Egyptian

tyranny, and that CHRIST is the Emancipator of all oppressed nations and classes. It pledges us to aim at getting all the people properly fed, housed, and clothed.

XXXV.—HOLY COMMUNION (iv)

1. What does the Holy Catholic Church teach?

(1) The Holy Communion is the Body and Blood of CHRIST under the outward forms of Bread and Wine.

(2) The Holy Communion was ordained by CHRIST for three main purposes:

(a) *To be the Sacrifice of the Church.*

We offer this Sacrifice for four main ends:

(i) For the Honour and Glory of GOD.

(ii) In Thanksgiving for GOD's Blessings.

(iii) For the Forgiveness of our sins.

(iv) For all things needful both for body and soul.

(b) *To be the Food of our Souls.* Our souls will die without this necessary Food.

(c) *To be the means of our union with CHRIST,* and in Him with one another.

(3) The Holy Communion is the only Service ordained by GOD in the Christian Church, and we ought to take part in it, at least every Sunday and Holy Day, with great love and devotion.

(4) To receive the Holy Communion fasting, i.e., before taking any other food or drink, has been the custom of the Church from the earliest times.

2. What is the Teaching of the Prayer Book ?

(1) The Prayer Book teaches us that the Body and Blood of CHRIST is the "inward part or thing signified" in this Sacrament.

(2) The Sacrament was ordained of CHRIST.

(a) "For the continual remembrance of the Sacrifice of the Death of CHRIST, and of the benefits which we receive thereby," and

(b) For "the strengthening and refreshing of our souls by the Body and Blood of CHRIST, as our bodies are by the Bread and Wine."

(c) We pray that CHRIST may "evermore dwell in us, and we in Him."

(3) The Holy Communion is clearly meant to be the chief Service each Sunday, and the one at which all GOD's children will be present, for there is no sermon, collection, notices, etc., appointed at any other service.

(4) The Prayer Book bids us examine ourselves whether we repent truly of our former sins, steadfastly purposing to lead a new life, to have a lively faith in GOD's mercy through CHRIST, with a thankful remembrance of His Death, to be in charity with all men, and so to be regular

communicants in the unity of CHRIST's Holy Catholic Church.

3. What ought every christian to do?

(1) Every christian ought to strive earnestly to make a good and loving Communion every Sunday and Holy Day.

(2) Every christian ought at least to be present, whenever possible, on these days when unable to receive the Communion.

(3) Every christian, in order to receive Holy Communion in accordance with the mind of CHRIST and of His Church,

(a) Ought to be in the state of Grace, i.e., must either have committed no sin since Baptism, or have received God's pardon for all sins committed.

(b) Ought to make a special preparation of penitence and prayer.

(c) Ought to be fasting from all food and drink.

XXXVI.—HOLY ORDER

1. When did our Lord appoint the Ministry? Our LORD chose His Apostles during His Ministry. They were ordained after His Resurrection, and received the fullness of ordination gifts on the Day of Pentecost. (*S. John* xx. 21; *Acts* ii. 1-4.)

2. What Orders have been since then? The Apostles appointed Bishops to succeed

them, and since then there have always been Bishops, Priests, and Deacons in the Church. (*Preface to Ordinal.*)

3. **What is Holy Order?** Holy Order is the Sacrament by which Bishops, Priests, and Deacons are set apart for the Service of GOD, and receive grace and power to perform their duties as ministers of His Church. The *matter* is the Laying on of hands, the *form* consists of words referring to the special order and gift, and the *effect* of Ordination is to give the character and authority for the particular Order of the Ministry to which men are ordained.

4. **What is Apostolic Succession?** GOD the FATHER sent the SON into the world, GOD the SON sent the Apostles, the Apostles sent Bishops with authority to ordain others, and so we have now Bishops who can trace their succession and authority from JESUS CHRIST. This has always been regarded as essential to a valid Ministry in the Church of GOD. (*Rom. x. 14, 15.*)

5. **Are English Orders valid?** The English Ministry has its succession from the Apostles. The English Offices show clearly that the Church means to continue the Orders which have been in the Church from the time of the Apostles, and indicate plainly the Orders to which Ordination is being made. There is no doubt that English Orders are valid, and that we have true Bishops, Priests, and Deacons.

6. What is the Office and work of a Bishop? To teach and maintain the Catholic Faith, Discipline, and Worship. To offer the Holy Sacrifice, to absolve, to intercede, and to bless in God's Name. To preach the Gospel and seek for God's wandering sheep, to feed the flock, to administer the Laws and Government of the Church, to ordain other Bishops, Priests, and Deacons, and to confirm.

7. What is the Office and work of a Priest? The same as that of a Bishop, except that he ministers with the Bishop's licence, and cannot ordain or confirm.

8. What is the Office and work of a Deacon? To assist the Priest in the services and work of the Church, and especially to visit the sick, poor, and sinful.

9. What is our duty to the Ministry? We ought to honour the Ministers of the Church as representing JESUS CHRIST, to pray for them and assist them in the work of the Church.

XXXVII.—HOLY MATRIMONY AND HOLY UNCTION

1. What is Matrimony? The Sacrament in which the contract of Marriage is blessed and sanctified, and men and women receive power to keep the Marriage Vow. It repre-

sents the spiritual marriage between CHRIST and His Church.

2. **When was Marriage ordained?** It was ordained by GOD after the creation of man. Our LORD sanctioned Marriage, and affirmed the sacred character of the Marriage bond. (*S. Matt. xix. 3-9.*)

3. **What is the Marriage Vow?** The man promises to love, comfort, and maintain his wife, and the woman promises to love, honour, serve, and obey her husband. They both promise to be true to each other, to bear discipline and suffering, until death shall part them.

4. **How should people prepare for Matrimony?** They should seek GOD's guidance in the choice of a partner, pray for true love, and make a good Repentance and Communion before their Marriage.

5. **Why was Matrimony ordained?** For the procreation of children, as a remedy against sin, and for mutual society, help, and comfort. It is a very great sin to prevent conception, or to procure abortion, or to abuse Holy Marriage in any other way.

6. **What are the duties of parents?** Parents are bound to provide for the needs of their children both for body and soul, to give them a good education, to discipline them, and to set them the example of a Christian Life. (*S. Matt. xviii. 1-6.*)

7. **What are the duties of children?** Children are bound to love, honour, and obey their parents.

8. **Can Marriage be dissolved?** The Civil Law cannot separate men and women whom GOD has joined together, and the teaching of our LORD and the Church is that for a divorced person to marry while the husband or wife is living is to commit the deadly sin of adultery. Home-life depends on the Marriage Vow being permanent, and will be impossible if Divorce becomes common. (*S. Matt.* v. 31, 32; *xix.* 3-12; *S. Mark* x. 2-12; *S. Luke* xvi. 18.)

9. **Is Marriage with a deceased wife's sister lawful?** The Law of the State in England now permits this, but the Law of the Church remains as before. This union is forbidden to members of the Church, as being contrary to the Law of GOD and incestuous, and those who contract these unions must repent and separate or they cannot rightly receive the Sacraments of the Church.

10. **What is Unction?** The Anointing of the Sick in the Name of the LORD. By this means of grace the sick are relieved and comforted in soul and restored to health, if it be GOD's Will. In serious sickness we should ask our Priest to anoint us. (*S. James* v. 14-15.)

XXXVIII.—THE HOLY BIBLE

1. What is the first Office of the Church?

To teach the Faith once delivered to the Saints. The Catholic Faith is contained in the Teaching and tradition of the Church, in the Three Creeds, and in the Holy Bible.

2. What is the Bible? The Bible is a large library, written by different men, at different times and under different circumstances, containing the history of the training of mankind to know, love, and serve GOD, and the Revelation GOD has given to the world of His own Character, the purpose of Human Life, and the eternal consequences of the way in which we use this period of probation.

3. How did the Church get the Bible?

At first the Church accepted the Old Testament as the Word of GOD, and the Apostles taught what our LORD had taught them. From time to time the Books of the New Testament were written by members of the Church.

4. How did we get the New Testament? The Books of the New Testament were written, either in consequence of some special circumstances or need of the Church, or to preserve in a permanent form the record of our LORD's Life, and the early History and Teaching of the Church.

5. How do we learn the Catholic

Faith? From the Teaching of the Church proved from Holy Scripture. "The Church to teach—the Scriptures to prove." It is the general Teaching of the Church that Holy Scripture contains, explicitly or implicitly, the whole Catholic Faith. Implicit teaching is that which may be deduced from what is written, or by comparison of the various parts with one another.

6. **What is inspiration?** The Church has never defined the exact nature of inspiration, but it means generally that the Church accepts and uses the Holy Scriptures as the Word of GOD, and as containing the Revelation GOD has given to man in faith and morals. (*2 Tim.* iii. 15-17 ; *2 S. Pet.* i. 20, 21.)

7. **Explain this more fully.** The HOLY SPIRIT inspired and guided members of the Church to write the Revelation GOD wished to give to mankind. GOD allowed the writers to use their natural knowledge and methods of obtaining information, and did not save them from taking pains, or even preserve them from making mistakes in matters of science and history. Their teaching in faith and morals, their declarations of the Will of GOD, their prophecies of future events, and their doctrinal statements are true and inspired by GOD.

8. **What is Verbal inspiration?** The theory that the writers of the Bible were merely

mechanical tools or recorders of the Words of GOD. The Bible nowhere claims this, the Church has never taught it, and it is contrary to all that we know of GOD's dealings with mankind.

9. **Is not the Bible abused?** One great cause of the indifference and unbelief of the present day is the unthinking use of the mere words of the Bible which has been widely prevalent, the private interpretation of its meaning, and the using of isolated passages for controversial purposes.

10. **How should we read the Bible?** The *Modern Reader's Bible* (Macmillan) will make the Holy Bible an interesting Book. Read the portions appointed for each day in the Prayer Book.

- (1) Pray for GOD's guidance.
- (2) Think well over what is read.
- (3) Read with a practical purpose.

XXXIX.—WORSHIP

1. **Why do we go to Church?** We go to Church to worship GOD. Good sermons are useful to convert and instruct sinners, but they are no necessary part of public worship.

2. **What is Worship?** Giving the Honour due to GOD. The Holy Sacrifice is the only worship which our LORD Himself appointed,

and we ought to join in this offering every Sunday and Holy Day.

3. **What is the Prayer Book?** The Book of Rites and Ceremonies used in the Church of England in the celebration of Public Worship and Administration of the Sacraments. It was largely compiled from the ancient Service Books, was first set forth in the sixteenth century, and has been revised four times. The Prayer Book must be interpreted from the point of view of the Catholic Religion, and thus interpreted; though it leaves much to be desired, we need not be ashamed of it.

4. **Is it right to have set Forms of Prayer?** They are necessary in order to secure public and common worship. No doubt there is great danger of formalism in set forms, and we need other Services in which God's children can pray in their own words and ways.

5. **Is it right to have outward things in public worship?** Some outward things are necessary because we have bodies. The only ones right and wholesome are those used by the custom and authority of the Catholic Church, and ordered in the Prayer Book.

6. **Where are these outward things ordered?** *In the Ornaments Rubric.* "Here it is to be noted, that such Ornaments of the Church, and of the Ministers thereof at all

times of their ministration, shall be retained and be in use, as were in this Church of England, by the authority of Parliament, in the Second Year of the Reign of King Edward the Sixth." We may dislike such Ornaments, or we may reject the authority of Parliament to regulate the worship of the Church, but all members of the Church of England are bound by this rubric.

7. Name some of these Ornaments?
The Altar, Crucifix, Candlesticks, Candles (lighted), Eucharistic Vestments, Censers, Incense, Copes, Surplices, etc.

8. Are these things necessary? S. John saw most of them in his Vision of the Worship of Heaven; they make the worship of GOD solemn and dignified, and help people to be reverent and to realize the Presence of GOD.

9. Mention some pious customs.

- (1) To kneel in prayer and stand in praise.
- (2) To bow towards the Altar.
- (3) To bow the head at the Name of JESUS.
- (4) To make the Sign of the Cross.
- (5) To bend the knee before the Blessed Sacrament.

10. Explain the most important points of Ceremonial?

(1) The Priest stands facing the Altar because he is offering Sacrifice to GOD.

(2) Candles are lighted to remind us that CHRIST is the true Light of the World, and as a sign of joy.

(3) Vestments are worn to signify that the Holy Eucharist is the only divinely appointed Service.

(4) Wafer Bread is used because our LORD used unleavened bread, and because this is the most convenient form of it.

(5) Water is mixed with the Wine because our LORD did so.

(6) Incense is offered to signify the Merits and Mediation of our LORD. It also creates and helps the spirit of reverence and worship.

(7) We bow towards the Altar because it represents the majesty of GOD, as men bow towards the King's Throne.

(8) We make the sign of the Cross to remind ourselves and others "not to be ashamed of CHRIST Crucified, but manfully to fight under His banner against sin, the world, and the devil, and to continue CHRIST's faithful soldiers and servants unto our life's end."

XL.—THE CHURCH. THE BUILDING.

1. **How many parts were there in the Jewish Temple?** There were three. The Outer Court, the Holy Place, and the Holy of Holies.

2. **How many parts are there in a Christian Church?** Three. The Porch (or Narthex), the Nave, and the Choir.

3. **What does the Porch teach us?** The Porch reminds us that many never enter the Church and do not love and serve God. We must pray, work, and give alms for the Mission Work of the Church. Perhaps God means you to give yourself to this glorious work.

4. **What does the Nave teach us?** The word "Nave" means ship. The Church is like a ship tossed on the ocean of this world.

(1) *The free and open Nave* teaches us that the Gospel of Grace and Truth is free to all, and that God will have all men to be saved. The seats all being alike teach us that all are equal in God's House.

(2) *The Font* is near the entrance to teach us that Baptism is the Door of the Church.

(3) *The Confessional* teaches us that if we sin after Baptism CHRIST will restore us on true Repentance.

(4) *The Lectern and Pulpit* teach us that it is the duty of the Catholic Church to make us know the Catholic Faith, and explain it to us. The Church is the keeper and interpreter of the holy Bible.

5. **What is there between the Nave and the Choir?** There ought to be the Rood Screen, with the figures of our LORD, S. Mary,

and S. John. The screen reminds us of the intermediate state between death and Heaven, and of the souls there, and that we must love and pray for them. The Cross reminds us of the death of CHRIST, Who thereby opened "the gate of heaven to all believers." Prepare now for your own death.

6. **What does the Chancel represent?** The Chancel represents Heaven. It reminds us of the reality of GOD, the holy Angels and Saints, and the Supernatural World.

(1) *The Worship of Heaven.* (Rev. iv. v.) The Throne of GOD, Seats, Elders, Music, Singing, Vestments, Incense, Lamps, Adoration, and Worship of the Lamb of GOD Which taketh away the sin of the world.

(2) *The Holy Eucharist.* The Altar, Ministers, Music, Singing, Vestments, Incense, Lamps, Adoration and Worship of JESUS CHRIST present under the outward forms of Bread and Wine.

XLI.—THE ANGELS

1. **Who are the Angels?** They are spiritual beings, created by GOD to know, love, and serve Him, and endowed with the power of free-will. The Angels are the highest beings in the scale of creation.

2. **What is the work of the Angels?** They glorify GOD by doing His Will in the

order of nature and grace. They are God's messengers and ministers to man.

3. **What do we know about the Angels?** They are moral agents, able to choose good and evil. They rejoice at the Conversion of sinners. (*S. Luke* xv. 7.) They are round about us at all times. (*1 Cor.* xi. 10; *Heb.* i. 14.) There are thought to be nine Orders of them:

Seraphim.	Dominions.	Virtues.
Cherubim.	Principalities.	Archangels.
Thrones.	Powers.	Angels.

4. **What is the Guardian Angel?** It is believed that each person has an Angel appointed by GOD to watch over him and minister to him. (*S. Matt.* xviii. 10.)

5. **Are all the Angels good and holy?** They were all created good, but some rebelled against GOD and fell away. Satan is the leader of the fallen angels or demons. (*Isa.* xiv. 12-14; *Rev.* xii. 4-9.)

6. **What is the aim of the demons?** They try to spoil the works of GOD, and to make men and women like themselves. The demons cannot make us sin against our will, and GOD gives us grace to resist temptation. Our LORD came to destroy the works of the devil. (*S. John* iii. 8.)

7. **Is Satan a real person?** The teaching of the Bible and the Church are perfectly

plain. The devil is a real person who tempts us to sin. The devil tempted our LORD and tempts us. (*S. Matt.* iv. 1-11; *1 S. Pet.* v. 8, 9.) We must not be misled by false teaching. It is the triumph of Satan's skill to persuade people that he does not exist, in order to shake their allegiance to CHRIST.

8. Has Satan many servants in the world? Our LORD says that every one is serving Himself or Satan. (*S. Matt.* vi. 24.) Many think they can remain neutral, but temptation reveals the truth. Take CHRIST as your Saviour, your LORD and GOD, and He will deliver you from every snare and device of Satan. (*S. John* xiv. 30; *Eph.* ii. 1, 2.)

9. What is our duty to the Holy Angels? We should often think of them, remember their presence, be grateful to GOD for their ministry, and maintain communion with them. We may ask them to pray for us.

XLII.—ALMSGIVING

1. Is Almsgiving an important duty? It is the first of the three duties mentioned by our LORD in the Sermon on the Mount. (*S. Matt.* vi. 2-4.)

2. Mention some reasons for giving Alms.

(1) *It is an acknowledgement that all we have*

belongs to GOD, and that we are stewards of everything we possess.

(2) *Obedience to GOD's Command.* (*Lev. xxvii. 30.*) The Jews were commanded to give a tenth part, for the maintenance of the Levites, and for GOD's feasts and sacrifices. Besides this, there was every third year a tithe for the poor. Our LORD cannot mean Christians to give less than Jews.

(3) *It is an exercise of our duty to our neighbour.* Our love to GOD is only a pretence if we do not help others in need. (*S. Matt. xxv. 31-46.*)

(4) *It is a remedy against selfishness and worldliness.* There is no surer remedy against avarice than to give money away. We have received everything from GOD. It is fitting to show our gratitude to GOD by giving generously towards the Mission Work of the Church and the relief of the sick and suffering. (*1 Cor. ix. 11.*)

3 How much ought a christian to give?
The tenth due to GOD is the first charge on our income. This is due, and we rob GOD if we do not pay it. (*Mal. iii. 7, 8.*) The amount we give to the work of the Church and to the poor is left to each heart to decide. We are responsible for the spending of ALL our money, and GOD will require a very strict account. (*S. Matt. xxv. 14-30.*)

4. Why do people give so little?

(1) One reason is that they regard their money as their own to do what they like with, forgetting that it is a trust from God, and that they are only stewards.

(2) A second reason is that many people live up to or even beyond their means. The temptation to appear "better off" than they really are is a great snare of the devil.

(3) The chief reason is that people do not really believe in God, or that He has any claim on their love.

5. What ought to be done? Almsgiving should not depend on impulse or sentiment or preachers, or any other chance influence. Make your rule to pay what is due to God first. If you do not give away much money it is a sure sign that you do not love God. If you have very little or no money do not worry, but strive to love God with all your heart and soul and strength.

XLIII.—PRAYER

1. What is Prayer? Prayer is an act of man's will, guided by reason and inspired by love, by which the will is brought into union with God. Prayer is the raising of the mind, heart, and will to God. Prayer is a conversation of the soul with God, by which we aspire to Him and He inspires us. (*S. Matt.* vi. 5-15.)

2. **What is Common Prayer?** Prayer offered in common to GOD. The Holy Eucharist is the Common Prayer appointed by GOD. No form of prayer can rightly be offered as a substitute for this.

3. **What is Intercession?** Intercession is praying for others. We should pray especially for—

(1) *The Catholic Church.* Reunion of Christendom, Home and Foreign Missions, the Conversion of sinners, the sick and suffering, the dead.

(2) *Our own Parish,* our Priests, Communicants, Unconverted.

(3) *Our personal* relations and friends, living and dead.

4. **How do we learn to pray?** We learn to pray by making short acts of the will. The consecration of the will to GOD is the essence of Prayer.

5. **What is necessary in order to pray well?** To pray well we must be in the state of grace ; we must resist temptation, avoid the occasions of sin, and earnestly strive to live according to GOD's Will.

6. **How can we "pray without ceasing?"** By living in the practice of the Presence of GOD. This practice is fulfilled by observing three important rules :

(1) Every morning renew your intention to

spend the day to GOD's glory, and to make the Love of GOD the motive of your life.

(2) During the day strive to do everything to the best of your power, and frequently raise your heart to GOD in ejaculatory prayer.

(3) Every night go over the day, confessing wherein you have sinned or failed, and renew the intention of the morning.

7. Are times of Prayer necessary? Devotions for which no time is fixed are apt to be omitted or forgotten. Make a rule about—

(1) Morning, Midday, and Evening Prayer.

(2) Meditation and reading the Bible and spiritual Books.

(3) Preparation for Confession and Communion.

8. Why does God sometimes not give us what we ask? If we pray with Reverence, Humility, and Perseverance, GOD is sure to answer our prayers in the best way, but our prayers are often not answered:

(1) Because of unrepented sin. (*Ezek. xiv. 3.*)

(2) From lack of Faith, Hope or Love. (*S. James i. 6-8.*)

(3) Because we pray contrary to GOD's Will. (*2 Cor. xii. 7-9.*)

XLIV.—FASTING

1. Is Fasting an important duty? It must be so, for it is the third duty mentioned in the

Sermon on the Mount. (*S. Matt.* vi. 16-18.) This duty is also enforced by our LORD'S own example in the Wilderness (*S. Matt.* iv. 2), and by His self-denial and mortification during Life and by His Death on the Cross.

2. What is the purpose of Fasting?

(1) *By Fasting we follow our LORD'S example.* (1 *S. Peter* ii. 21-24.) This is of the essence of Christian Life. (*S. Matt.* x. 38.)

(2) *Fasting is an Act of Obedience to the Catholic Church.* Obedience is a virtue, and we are not the judges of what is good for us.

(3) *Our Salvation depends on self-discipline.* Our final state in Heaven or hell depends on whether our higher or lower nature gains the mastery. The struggle is going on now. (*Gal.* v. 16-17, vi. 8.) The issue depends on whether we mortify the flesh or not. Fasting and self-denial strengthen the will and enable us to resist temptation.

3. What are the Days of Fasting and Abstinence?

(1) The Forty Days of Lent.

(2) The Ember Days.

(3) The Rogation Days before Ascension Day.

(4) All the Fridays in the year, except Christmas Day.

(5) The Vigils of certain Festivals. (See list in Prayer Book.)

4. How are we to keep the Days of Fast-

ing? The Church leaves the special rules to our own devotion, except that we are forbidden to eat flesh meat. We ought to make our own special rules, taking care to observe the Wednesdays and Fridays in Lent (especially Ash Wednesday and Good Friday) with greater strictness. The following rules may help us—

(1) No food until 9, 12, 3, or 6 p.m.

(2) No meat, tobacco, sugar, etc.

(3) Less and plain food.

5. **What is exterior mortification?** The mortification of the Flesh. It includes three degrees :

(1) *The observance of the Days of Fasting and Abstinence*, avoiding all occasions of sin, and self-discipline in everything. This degree necessary for every one.

(2) *The giving up* of everything not necessary to health in Food, Drink, Sleep, and Recreation.

(3) *Severe and afflictive penances* of the Flesh. Admire the Saints, but do not imitate them in hard and severe chastisement of the body unless you are certain that the HOLY SPIRIT is guiding you.

6. **What is interior mortification?** The mortification of the soul. Exterior mortification is only a means to this. It includes three degrees :

(1) *The mortification of the Mind*. The rooting up of all false opinions and social prejudices

in regard to birth, position, money, and custom. The rejection of the world's Moral Code. The discipline of the imagination (day-dreaming, discontent, and low spirits leading to impurity and every other sin). The ruthless tearing up of all pride, self-will, unreasonableness, crossgrainedness, conceit, presumption, jealousy, self-complacency, sensitiveness, self-consciousness, and the substitution of "the Mind of CHRIST." (1 Cor. ii. 16.)

(2) *The mortification of the Heart.* The discipline of the desires, eagerness and activity, the affections, attachments to persons, places and things, and all likes and dislikes. All motions of the heart must be brought into obedience to the Sacred Heart of CHRIST.

(3) *The mortification of the Will.* This is the dominant faculty of the soul. The severest effort and discipline is required to bring the will into obedience to GOD's Will. Very few attain this here or even attempt it. Yet christian liberty here and the joy of Heaven hereafter depend on interior mortification. "There is no discharge in that warfare."

XLV.—CONVERSION

1. What does the Holy Catholic Church teach?

(1) Sin is the turning of the will away from GOD.

(2) Conversion is the returning of the will to GOD. The entire self-surrender of the will to GOD's love.

(3) GOD wills the Conversion of every sinner. "GOD will have all men to be saved."

(4) All who are not earnestly striving to keep the Baptismal Vow need Conversion before they can be in right relation with GOD.

(5) Conversion means separation from sin and consecration unto GOD. Therefore lukewarm christians need Conversion as much as open and notorious sinners.

2. What is the Teaching of the Prayer Book?

(1) The Prayer Book is full of warnings against sin and of invitations to return to GOD.

(2) There are two places in the Prayer Book where Conversion is taught with special force :

(a) *The Church Catechism.* The child states the blessings given by GOD in Baptism. The child then gives the three great promises made to GOD. The Catechism then puts a searching question: My child, will you do this? Any one who can honestly say the "I will" of the Catechism is a soundly converted Christian.

(b) *The invitation to Holy Communion.* Would to GOD that careless, lukewarm, and

unconverted churchfolk would realize or remember that the Church does not invite the unconverted to Communion. "Ye that do truly and earnestly repent," etc.

3. What ought every christian to do ?

(1) Every christian should give up every sin which separates him from God.

(2) Every christian should daily consecrate his will to God.

(3) Every christian should frequently examine himself as to whether he is making respectability, conventional christian practice, or even the reception of the Sacraments, a substitute for obedience to the Will of God.

XLVI.—REPENTANCE

1. What does the Holy Catholic Church teach ?

(1) Sin is any failure or refusal to do the Will of God.

(2) There are two kinds of sin :

Original sin, or birth sin.

Actual sin, or the sin we commit.

(3) There are two kinds of actual sin :

Mortal sin, which destroys the grace of God in the soul and deserves hell.

Venial sin, so called because it arises from our weakness and is not wilful.

(4) There are seven Roots of mortal sin :

Pride, Lust, Gluttony, Sloth, Covetousness, Anger, Envy.

(5) Repentance is loving sorrow for sin showing itself in word and in deed.

(6) In Repentance there are three parts :

(a) *Contrition*, or loving sorrow for the sins by which we have offended our good GOD, with a firm purpose not to sin again.

(b) *Confession*, or telling our sins one by one to GOD, to one another, or to GOD before His Minister.

(c) *Amendment of life* : renouncing sin and all persons, places, and things dangerous to us ; striving to live according to GOD's Will : accepting and practising the Faith, Discipline, and Worship of the Church ; restitution or restoring what we have taken (money, character, etc.) ; reparation or fighting against the special sin by which we have offended GOD ; and mission zeal or praying and working for the conversion of sinners.

(7) There is Forgiveness for all who truly repent. GOD's Forgiveness was won by CHRIST, and is freely bestowed on the penitent.

2. What is the Teaching of the Prayer Book ?

The Prayer Book plainly teaches that Repentance and Faith are necessary to Salvation for every professing Christian, and is full of warnings against delaying Repentance.

3. What ought every christian to do ?

(1) Every christian should make an earnest and sincere self-examination every night, and especially before receiving Holy Communion, earnestly seeking the guidance of the HOLY SPIRIT.

(2) Every christian should earnestly pray for GOD's mercy and for the grace of a true Repentance for all the sins by which he has offended our good GOD.

(3) Every christian, if he have not "a full trust in GOD's mercy and a quiet conscience," should go to his own Priest or to some other discreet and learned Minister of GOD's Word that he may receive "the benefit of Absolution, together with ghostly counsel and advice."
(*Service for Holy Communion.*)

XLVII.—VOCATION

1. What is Vocation? Vocation is the purpose of life, or the position in life to which GOD calls us.

2. What is the general Vocation? GOD calls every man to know, love, and serve Him, and by this means to attain eternal life.

3. What is the special Vocation? The special work GOD means each one to do on earth.

4. Have all got Vocation? Yes, all

GOD's children have both general and special Vocation.

5. **How can we tell our special Vocation?** GOD reveals our special Vocation by a secret attraction, by providential circumstances, such as home ties and relationships, and by our own powers and fitness for the life and work.

6. **Are all Vocations of equal value?** The value of a life does not consist in its position or outward circumstances, but in the degree in which it is a response to GOD's Will.

7. **Mention one Vocation.** *Daily Work.* All who are able are called to work, for the gift of health and strength implies daily strenuous work. If a man will not work, he has no right to eat. (2 *Thess.* iii. 10.)

8. **Mention another Vocation.** *Holy Marriage.* The Formation of a holy and happy Home is one of the most important works GOD calls men and women to do. The Family is GOD's method for the continuation of the race, and the training of children in christian character.

9. **Mention another Vocation.** *The Mission Work of the Church.* Millions are living in indifference, unbelief, and mortal sin, and GOD wants men and women to consecrate themselves to the ministry of conversion.

10. **Mention another Vocation.** *The Religious Life.* All christians are called to imitate our LORD in voluntary poverty, purity, and obedience to GOD's Will, but some are called to serve GOD under Rule in a Religious Community. The advantages of this life are the freedom for service, the discipline and inspiration which association with others brings. It is one of the happiest and most blessed forms of human life.

11. **Mention another Vocation.** *Suffering.* This is a most beautiful and most useful Vocation, for those who suffer are thereby united with our LORD, their sufferings intercede with GOD, and witness to the world the power of Divine love.

XLVIII.—THE RULE OF LIFE

1. **What is a Rule of Life?** A definite Rule for the chief duties of life. No Rule of Life is pleasing to GOD apart from spiritual earnestness, but a good Rule helps us to be regular in our duties, and reminds us when we are getting slack.

2. **What ought we to make a Rule about?** We ought to have a definite Rule in regard to six things:

(1) *Almsgiving.* Almsgiving is the typical expression of our duty to our fellow-men. We

ought to set aside a definite sum of money according to our means. (*S. Matt.* vi. 1-4.)

(2) *Prayer.* Prayer is the typical expression of our duty to God. We want a definite Rule in regard to private, family, and public prayer and worship. (*S. Matt.* vi. 5-15.)

(3) *Fasting.* Fasting is the typical expression of our duty to ourselves. We need definite rules about eating, drinking, smoking, amusements, pleasure, and in regard to the observance of the days of Fasting and Abstinence. (*S. Matt.* vi. 16-18.)

(4) *Bible Reading and Meditation.* This is most important, and should be done daily. Read a Book straight through, or read the portions appointed for each day in the Prayer Book.

(5) *Repentance.* Self-examination and renewal of Repentance daily, especially on Fridays, and before receiving Holy Communion. Absolution in accordance with our spiritual needs.

(6) *Holy Communion.* Receive Holy Communion every Sunday and Holy Day, or more frequently if drawn by spiritual hunger and thirst after Righteousness, and attend the offering of the Holy Sacrifice on other days.

3. How do you make the Rule of Life? Write out a definite Rule in regard to each of these six things, asking the advice of some experienced Priest, if in doubt. Try to keep

this Rule of Life, and revise it at the beginning of each Lent.

Any christian who will make a simple Rule of Life, in accordance with the Will of GOD, and who will keep it with love and devotion to GOD, will certainly go to Heaven.

XLIX.—THE LOVE OF GOD AND MAN

1. **What do we know about God's Love?** We know that GOD's Love includes all mankind, that GOD loves each one separately, and that GOD's Love is a jealous love, and therefore GOD will punish sin and impenitence. (*S. John* iii. 16.)

2. **What is the love of Man?** True love of man is the love of GOD in man's heart manifesting itself towards his fellow-men. (*S. John* iv. 20, 21.)

3. **What is the condition of the people in England?** In England there are about forty-three million persons. Five millions have more than £3 a week; about eighteen millions earn good wages, but have no security of employment or provision for old age; about ten millions are poor; and about ten millions are in extreme poverty, overwork, and degradation of body and soul.

4. **What is the cause of this extreme**

poverty, overwork, and degradation? One great cause is that industrialism has been carried on for profit, regardless of the physical, moral, or spiritual welfare of the workers. The love of God and Man has been largely banished from our industrial system, and selfishness has taken its place.

5. **What is the remedy?** The remedy is the recognition of the justice of the worker's claim that industrialism shall be carried on, not primarily for profit, but in order that all the people may be properly fed, housed, and clothed; and that they have a right to regular employment, at adequate wages, under human conditions, with provision for those who are unable to work. If a trade or occupation will not support the worker in decency, then the trade or occupation ought not to exist.

6. **What is Charity?** Charity is the Love of God showing itself in love and service, not the giving of doles to the poor. Justice, in the shape of an adequate wage, must precede any "charity" pleasing to God.

7. **Is the Church concerned with poverty?** The Church is concerned with poverty because every social question is a moral and spiritual question, and because extreme poverty breeds indifference, blasphemy, drink, lust, gambling, and other forms of sin.

8. **What can we do?** Join the Christian

Social Union, or the Church Socialist League, and unite with those who are praying and working to get all the people properly fed, housed, and clothed, and the law of God carried into industrial and political life.

L.—THE MORAL WITNESS OF THE CHURCH

1. What do we mean by the moral witness of the Church? We mean that it is the office of the Church, not only to teach the Catholic Faith, but also to bear witness to the moral law of God.
2. Where do we find the moral law of God? We find it in the Sermon on the Mount and in other parts of the Gospel.
3. Has Jesus Christ given any authority to His Church to bear witness to His moral teaching? Yes. Our LORD has invested His Church with the power of binding and loosing. (*S. Matt.* xviii. 18.)
4. What is meant by "binding" and "loosing?" By binding and loosing is meant the judicial power of forbidding certain things and allowing certain things in the administration of the moral law.
5. Are there instances in the New Testament of the exercise of this authority? Yes; there is the case of the man

in the Church at Corinth guilty of a great sin against the law of purity. S. Paul urges the Church at Corinth to meet together in CHRIST's Name, and with CHRIST's power "to put away from among themselves that wicked person" because he had gone against the moral law. (1 Cor. v. 1-13.)

6. Is not the exercise of this power sadly in abeyance to-day? Yes; but in our Communion Service we are reminded that "in the Primitive Church there was a godly discipline," and taught to wish for its restoration; it speaks of the time "when such discipline may be restored again, which is much to be wished." There will come a revival of Church discipline just as there has come a revival of worship and of Catholic teaching.

7. Is there any other way in which the Church can bear witness to the moral law? Yes; it is her duty to apply CHRIST's law to the needs and circumstances of this generation. To protest against worldliness, unjust practices in business, sweating of the poor, bad housing, and everything which is against the moral Law.

8. Will it not be difficult to apply Christ's moral teaching to particular cases? Yes; it will be difficult, but by no means impossible. There are thousands in England to-day who are looking to the Church

for moral guidance as to what is allowed and what is forbidden in such matters as the investment of capital, the holding of land and property, the advertisement and disposal of goods, the employment of labour, etc. It is the duty of the Church to inform men's consciences upon all these matters.

9. **How can the Church best perform this difficult duty?** The Church can teach all her members to seek GOD'S Kingdom and His Righteousness in *all* their doings and relations, in social, political, and religious life. If men are in earnest the HOLY GHOST will teach us GOD'S Will, and a "Church conscience" on these matters will gradually be formed.

LI.—THE CHURCH AND SOCIAL REFORM.

1. **What has the Church got to do with Social Reform?** It is commonly assumed that Religion is only concerned with spiritual matters or the life after death, and especially that Religion must be kept out of business, whereas a great deal of our LORD'S Teaching was about the Kingdom of GOD which He was going to establish on earth and at once.

2. **What is the Kingdom of God?** The Kingdom of GOD is the great spiritual

movement, inspired by GOD the HOLY GHOST, for the establishment of the reign of CHRIST on earth, and the redemption, uplifting, and salvation of all mankind. Man's well-being includes the health of his body as well as his soul, and therefore the Kingdom of GOD must mean that all GOD's people are properly fed, housed, and clothed as well as their souls converted and united to GOD.

3. **What are our Lord's Miracles?** They are nearly all works on behalf of people's bodies: works for health and strength, restoring beauty and harmony and happiness, feeding the people and subduing nature to the common good, works showing that Human Life was meant by GOD to be happy and blessed, and that premature death has no right here.

4. **What are our Lord's Parables?** They are illustrations and pictures of the Kingdom of GOD and have no meaning unless this Kingdom is on earth. They should be studied in this connection. The rich man was in hell, not because he was rich but because he took no pains to see that the poor were properly cared for. (*S. Luke xvi. 19.*) The nations will be blessed or cursed according as they do or do not take care that the people are properly fed, housed, and clothed. (*S. Matt. xxv.*)

5. **What are the Sacraments?** The

Sacraments are means, appointed by CHRIST, by which GOD gives certain things to men. *Holy Baptism is the Sacrament of equality*, for in it GOD claims every little child as the equal of every other child, and gives to each one an equal share in the Kingdom of GOD. *Holy Communion is the Sacrament of Brotherhood*, and all who receive It are pledged to treat all other members of the Church as brothers and sisters.

6. **What is the Catholic Church?** The Catholic Church is the Divinely appointed means for the bringing about of the Kingdom of GOD on earth, though we believe that GOD is often working for the Kingdom of GOD through other movements. The Catholic Church is the Society founded by CHRIST to carry on in the world on a large scale the works and teaching which He did during His life on earth. The Church must therefore be very much concerned to see that all the people are properly fed, housed, and clothed.

7. **What is the Church Catechism?** The Church Catechism is the authoritative manual of Church Teaching and Practice. It is there taught that "My duty towards my neighbour is to love him as myself, and to do to all men as I would they should do unto me. . . To be true and just in all my dealing. . . . Not to covet nor desire other men's goods; but to learn

and labour truly to get my own living, and to do my duty in that state of life unto which it shall please GOD to call me." Let Englishmen take the Church Catechism seriously, and a godly, righteous, and sober revolution will be the result.

8. What can we do ?

(1) *PRAY*. We can pray for a great outpouring of the HOLY SPIRIT and the establishment of the Kingdom of GOD in England.

(2) *STUDY*. We can study the condition of the poor, and the causes of the poverty, overwork, and degradation of the people.

(3) *AGITATE*. We can instruct and stir up others to pray and work for a righteous distribution of the means of life GOD has so richly provided for all.

LII.—THE CHURCH AND THE PEOPLE

1. What is our Lord's Commission to the Church ? "And JESUS came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto Me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the Name of the FATHER, and of the SON, and of the HOLY GHOST: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway,

even unto the end of the world. Amen." (*S. Matt.* xxviii. 18-20.) Judged by this standard the Church of England has failed to do our LORD'S will and work. The great mass of the wage-earning class, the class to which our LORD and most of the Apostles belonged, is indifferent or hostile to her claims, millions of the best and noblest of the people have organized themselves in religious societies apart from the Church, and many members of the Church are cold and lukewarm.

2. **What are the causes of this alienation between the Church and the people?** No doubt the world, the flesh and the devil, false teaching, and moral inconsistencies of priests and people have partly caused this alienation, but there are three other more powerful causes.

3. **What is the first of these causes?** The growth of worldliness in the Church. This may be seen in many ways. The power of wealth divorced from holiness, the low standard of morality in business by professing churchmen, and the exclusion of the wage-earning class from the Ministry, and any real interest or responsibility in the finance, government, or Mission Work of the Church. The Church has been captured by the class with £3 a week, and is carried on mainly in their interests, as until just lately the pew system

bore witness. The spirit of worldliness has invaded the Church and excluded the wage-earning class from membership on equal terms. Bounties to the poor, and work done for them, however liberal and earnest, have not compensated for this practical exclusion of them from their right place in the Christian society.

4. What is the second of these causes?

A great industrial system has grown up founded on two principles: first, that selfishness and profit are the primary motives in industrialism, and, secondly, that industrialism is entirely apart from morality and religion. The Church as an official body has not made any effective protest or serious effort to secure that all the people are properly fed and housed. The people think that the Church does not care about their physical welfare, or is opposed to their determination to obtain means to live the human life GOD meant them to live. The great efforts of many individual churchmen to promote a better state of things has not made up for this.

5. What is the third of these causes?

A cold, formal, indefinite, and non-sacramental form of religion has very largely taken the place of the Evangelical Religion founded by JESUS CHRIST. This cold official religion does not inspire even the members of the Church, much less the great body outside.

6. What are the remedies for this state of things?

(1) *We ought to pray and work to cast out the spirit of worldliness.* We ought to choose converted Churchwardens, Sidesmen, Choirmen, Teachers, and other Church Workers. We ought to expect Churchmen to carry their Religion into their business. We ought to give free access to Holy Orders to all whom God calls, and full membership in the Church to every one, on equal terms of membership, with a real interest and responsibility in the work and Mission Work of the Church.

(2) *The Church ought once more to take the side of the weak and defenceless,* and bring about a Magna Charta of industrial liberty. The Church ought to fight for a living wage, regular employment, provision for incapacity and old age, and such a righteous distribution of the products of labour as shall enable all God's children to live a godly, righteous, and sober life.

(3) *The Church ought to fearlessly teach the Catholic Religion,* with Evangelical fervour, seasoned with humour. The extension of the Incarnation and Atonement in the Church and Sacraments is the only true remedy for the alienation between God's Church and God's children.

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